

Winners are the D-Trip and the Venus Callipyge

Curaçao's yachts reign supreme at first Rembrandt Sailing Regatta



PALM BEACH - Curaçao reigned supreme on the Aruban waters this past weekend, when the first Aruba Rembrandt Regatta tested the skills of international and local sailors. The D-Trip of Sergey Boer in the Racing Class and the Venus Callipyge of Hans van der Straaten in the Cruising Class sailed victoriously across the finish line. They were set on their heels by Aruban captains, however: The Tranquilo of Anthony Hagedoorn and the Eva Luna of regatta organizer Eric Mijts both came in second overall in the two categories. Team Ibis of Curaçao's Karel van Haren and Italy's Paolo Grazzini with his Supermario



and his almost-all-female crew were in third. The Rembrandt Regatta was not only fun for yachts: the Beach Cats, Sunfishes and Windsurfers were out in force as well. The winners in these classes were: Beach Cats: 1. Theo Valize; 2. Martin v.d. Velden; 3. J.P. van den Eerenbeemt. Sunfishes: 1. Ramon Kervel; 2. Theo Poiesz; 3. Robert-Jan Moons. Windsurfing was in three categories: New Kids: 1.



Amanda Westera; 2. Elyne Marchena; 3. Niki Croes. Super Kids: 1. Mack v.d. Eerenbeemt; 2. Mathias Verploeg and 3. Tom Croes. Pro Kids: 1. Nicole v.d. Velden; 2. Ethan Westera; 3. Nik van den Eerenbeemt. Back to Saturday, when the yachts sailed their Round



the Island race. While the wind started out rather low, it picked up considerably as the day passed by. The D-Trip went over the finish line at the Renaissance Conference Center first, taking just 5 hours and 37 minutes to sail all the way around. Other yachts took much longer, some of them only coming in after 9 hours. The last one in had caught a 6 kilo-barracuda on the way. Funny story: a big wave swept the captain of one

of the yachts overboard, but the next wave brought him back in. He was wearing a lifeline.

Sunday saw two races for the yachts in rather variable wind conditions, which made for some hectic and exciting moments. One brand new spinnaker blew away, and a pile-up of ten yachts near a buoy with Supermario in problems right in front of it, had the adrenaline roaring. Spectators greatly enjoyed the sight of the spinnaker-bearing yachts sailing so close near the harbor.

At the award-giving ceremony a special mention was made of the oldest and the youngest competitors of this Regatta: 16 year-old Marc Rooijackers of the Rafaga and 79 year-old veteran sailor Ernie Kervel of the Ocean 505 proved that sailing is for everyone, regardless their ages. At the end of the ceremony, emcee Evert Bongers thanked the



competitors as well as sponsors Rembrandt Café, Heineken Beer, Freeway Advertising, Jotun Car Colour Aruba and Mount Gay Rum and he congratulated the winners of this first international Aruba Rembrandt Regatta, which is clearly here to stay judging from the enthusiastic reactions of the participants.

The group of six yachts from Curaçao sailed home at 11 pm last Sunday. What a long, long day for them! □

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Joanne & Cyrus B. Whitney III vow their love



PALM BEACH- On August 15, 2009, Joanne Kerins & Cyrus BelknapWhitney III vowed their love in matrimony at Radisson Aruba Resort. The lovebirds met at a bar in Hoboken, New Jersey on St. Patrick's Day. They both did not wear green and they stood out from the crowd. It was a great standing out because the moment Cyrus set eyes on Joanne he knew he found his forever love. Cyrus bought Joanne a drink as they got to know one another, exchanged phone numbers and

told Joanne that he was going to marry her. It was a short 13 month of dating and Cyrus knew the moment had come. As Joanne and Cyrus watched the sunset on their balcony he proposed his love and asked for her hand in marriage. "We choose Aruba because we wanted a destination wedding with close family and friends to enjoy an awesome vacation", stated Joanne. The wedding day was perfect. As Joanne walked down the aisle, Cyrus was delighted to

see his bride and knew that the moment was finally here. The ceremony was delivered by Reverend Jacobs and witnessed by 74 guests. Joanne and Cyrus vowed their love, exchanged rings and said "I Do" as the sunset behind the horizon. Bella Aruba Photographers, Angela Munzenhofer and Julia Renfro captured the wedding as everything unfolded. The evening sunset was a kaleidoscope of fire blazed skies which turned into a starlit evening. Following the ceremony the guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvre and cocktails beside the pool deck of the prestigious Radisson Resort. The bridal party and newlyweds were announced, which followed to the nuptials first dance, cutting of cake, parent dances; speeches and dinner. The Equator band rocked the night away as everyone enjoyed the special wedding day. That's not all though... The party continued in the Penthouse until 6 a.m with Radisson staff who catered platters of appetizers to complete the wildest party ever.

"Our wedding exceed our expectations, all of our guests



had the time of their lives." We want to thank Lissy Lampe of Ceremonies and Celebrations in Aruba for coordinating our wedding and anticipate all our needs. No words can do her justice; she was amazing and the easiest person to work with", replied the newlyweds and added "We want to thank our guests for making our wedding day one to remember. We never

imagined the turnout of our dear friends and family who made the journey to witness our special day and rejoice with a week of fun in paradise"... The Radisson Resort staff were gracious hosts' in making our vacation perfect in every way,". stated Mr & Mrs. Whitney

Photos by Angela Munzenhofer & Julia Renfro



Anio Zwart hosts service seminar at MooMba Beach

Aruba Wine & Dine group continue to upgrade service



HADICURARI – Recently, professional trainer Anio Zwart held a service seminar at MooMba Beach Bar and Restaurant for staff members of the Aruba Wine & Dine group.

Anio Zwart emphasized about how to improve service to increase guest satisfaction experience resulting in repeat guests.

Whether you prefer hamburgers or foie gras, the beach or downtown, there's an ARUBA WINE and DINE member for you.

Choose from eight establishments offering something for everyone, from fine-dining excellence at Matilde Island Chic and Hadicurari, to family fun tapas at Salt & Pepper, or enjoy a charcoal grilled dinner with tango show at Tango Restaurant.

Relax on the beach at MooMba, or go all out starting your evening at Cafe The Plaza, stroll over to Mambo Jambo for downtown nightlife and finish your

evening at Sopranos' live piano bar or get the freshest catch at Fishes & More. Check out the Associates websites for a great vacation experience! □



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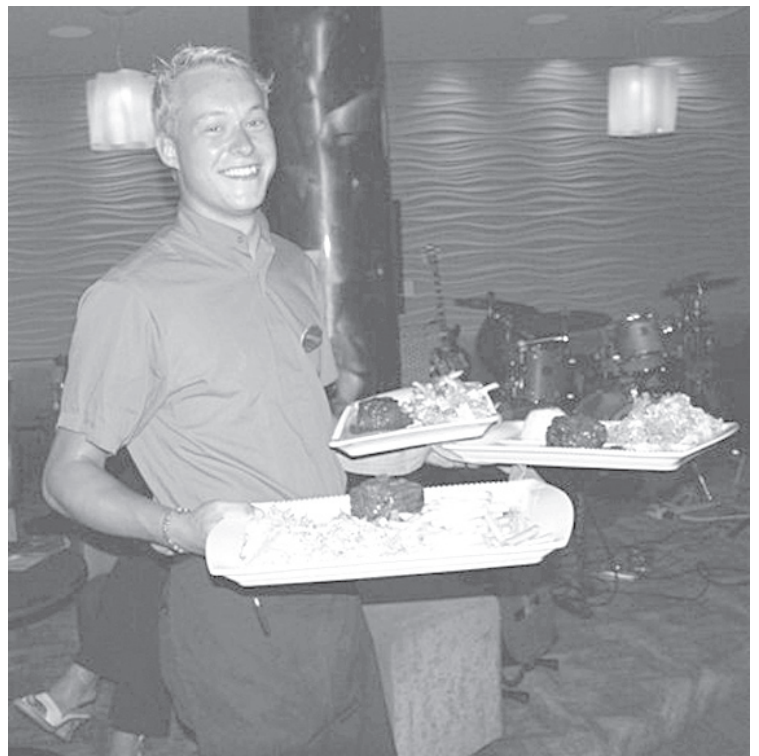
Mulligan's Golf Café' Bar & Restaurant Hosts a Swedish Press Trip



DIVI LINKS – The clubhouse at Divi Link, home of Mulligan's Golf Café' Bar & Restaurant hosted a group of Swedish magazine writers on Friday. Having arrived on the island on the Martinair flight from Amsterdam the dignitaries were transferred to Divi

Village where they were staying for the weekend. After settling into their spacious rooms they were met by Tabitha J. Fecunda, Island Marketing & Promotion Manager, The Links at Divi Aruba, for dinner at the club house. Mulligan's Golf Café' Bar & Restaurant is a casual-

elegant Caribbean restaurant. As the airy and comfortable first stop on the island, with the view overlooking the ninth hole island green, Mulligan's delivered the tropical ambiance and soothing waterfall views, the



Europeans were seeking. The group was escorted by Kevin Jansen, the regional ATA, Aruba Tourism Authority representative, who incidentally is on his honeymoon here and will continue his vacation with

his just-wed wife, when the press trip leaves to go back to Sweden to report to Golf, Lifestyle and Business magazines about their adventures here. Pictured here the group, also escorted by Mandy Lopez of ATA. □



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August 20th	Crystal	AWG 7500 + weekend stay
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Ana down to depression - Bill forecast to pass north

PHILIPSBURG--Tropical Storm Ana was downgraded back to a relatively small tropical depression Sunday night and was forecast to pass South of the local area early this morning, with the Meteorological Service of the Netherlands Antilles expecting showers, possible thunderstorms and somewhat rough seas for St. Maarten, Statia and Saba. A small craft advisory went into effect last night. Meanwhile, Tropical Storm Bill was gaining strength in the Atlantic and was expected to become a large hurricane that preliminary forecast tracks had passing

North of the islands on Thursday.

The poorly defined centre of Tropical Depression Ana was located yesterday at 11:00pm near latitude 16.0 North and longitude 61.2 West or about 25 miles (40km) Southeast of Guadeloupe. It was moving West-Northwest near 26mph and on this track it would enter the Northeast Caribbean today, Monday. Maximum sustained winds remained near 35mph (55 km/hr) with higher gusts. Little change in strength was forecast during the next 24 hours and data from an Air Force

Reserve hurricane hunter aircraft showed that Ana's circulation had become less organised yesterday. If this trend continued, Ana could degenerate into a tropical wave today.

The minimum central pressure reported by the Air Force Reserve hurricane hunter aircraft was 1008mb (29.77 inches).

Ana was expected to produce rainfall amounts of two to four inches over the Northeast Caribbean islands with isolated maximum amounts of six inches over mountainous terrain.

Meanwhile, Tropical Storm Bill was likely to become a hurricane overnight. At 11:00pm its centre was located near latitude 13.4 North and longitude 41.7 West or about 1,320 miles (2,120 km) East of the Eastern Caribbean.



Hurricane Bill is pictured moving through the Atlantic Ocean, more than 1,160 miles (1,870 km) east of the Lesser Antilles islands of the Caribbean, in this satellite image taken on August 17, 2009.

REUTERS/NOAA/Handout

Bill was moving toward the West-Northwest near 20mph (32km/hr) and this motion was expected to continue for the next couple of days.

Maximum sustained winds were near 70mph

(110km/hr) with higher gusts. Tropical storm force winds extended outward up to 140 miles (220km) from the centre and the estimated minimum central pressure was 990mb (29.23 inches) □

No school due to the deteriorating weather conditions

PHILIPSBURG--Thousands of students, teachers and other school personnel will have to wait one day longer before they can officially begin the 2009-2010 academic year.

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) decided to call off the first day of school, Monday, due to the deteriorating weather conditions expected as a result of the passing of Tropical Depression Ana. Authorities said it had been decided to keep schools closed today "as a precautionary measure." Schools will be open today, Tuesday.

The announcement came on Sunday following a meeting of emergency management officials chaired by Lt. Governor Franklyn Richards, Chairman of the Emergency Operations Centre.

An estimated 20 to 40 mm rainfall is expected as a result of Ana, which can cause flooding in low lying areas as well as poor road conditions due to lingering weather conditions as the system passes. Most of the schools in St. Maarten are located in the St. Peters/South Reward area, which is prone to flooding during heavy downpours.



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Set sail and join Red Sail Sports Half Day Luncheon Snorkel Sail or the romantic Sunset Sail. Red Sail Sports also offers a Dinner Sail which combines a sail along Aruba's scenic coastline and a spectacular view of the sunset with a tantalizing buffet catered by award-winning chefs. If you want to discover Aruba's underwater world, be sure to get in touch with Red Sail Sports. Learn to dive in one



day with the Discover Scuba Dive Course, get PADI certified or join us on our daily one and two tank dives. Red Sail Sports is Aruba's lead-in dive and watersports operator. Activity desks are located at the Hyatt Regency, Marriott Resorts and on Renaissance Island.

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"Early Bird: daily 5-7pm
3-course dinner
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Experience Papillon's gripping story! Introducing a catching special for the early Birds

PALM BEACH - Henri Charrière, one of the world's most famous prisoners, would surely have had the time of his life at Papillon Restaurant in The Village, across from the Radisson Resort. Nicknamed Papillon because of the butterfly tattoo on his chest, the Frenchman was the first convict to escape from Devil's Island, something that nobody had ever done before. Charrière's thrilling, gripping...

auto-biography has been the concept behind Papillon Restaurant. The décor, the decorations and especially the restrooms wink at the thirteen terrible years Papillon spent in prison in French Guyana. Papillon restaurant's menu reflects the Frenchman's arduous journey to freedom: classic French dishes have been dusted with daring Caribbean flair and are a culinary journey for your taste buds. The spacious outside terrace is perfect for casual fine dining; the iron bars, flecks of rust and stains on the walls make one very glad not to be in Papillon's shoes in the 1940's! Charrière would undoubtedly have loved 'his' place on Aruba: this is luxury living for anyone!

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Papillon Restaurant offers a daily Early Bird special. A delicious 3-course meal with a glass of house wine for just \$29.75 per person between 5pm and 7pm

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Papillon's opening hours are from 5 pm until midnight. The restaurant's daily specials will be explained by the staff. For reservations, please call 586 5400 or go to www.papillonaruba.com.

Papillon Restaurant is located in The Village, just across from the Radisson Resort.

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At Amadeus Bar & Restaurant

Golfers enjoy post-tournament happy hour



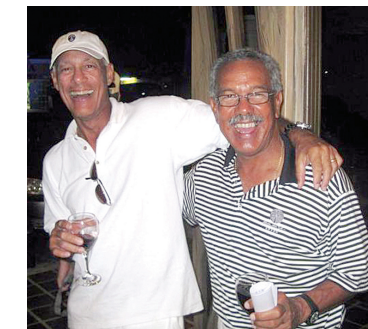
TANKI LEENDERT – A post golf-tournament happy hour unfolded at Amadeus Bar & Restaurant, in Tanki Leendert at the end of Aruba's first Golf Series.

The series, played on June 6th, 13th, 27th, July 4th and August 15th, at Tierra del Sol Golf Course was titled the "Heritage Cup." It was presented by Boolchand's, in an individual Stableford



format under the guidance of Tierra del Sol's head pro Oliver Riding and his assistance, golf pro Adam Williamson. Ravee Boolchand presided over the award ceremony, presenting top golfers with a number of valuable

BOSE prizes. Amadeus Bar & Restaurant owner Chef Thomas Mitter is an avid golfer himself, and was pleased to entertain the golfers at the end of the series.



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Human trafficking and Dominican migration to St Maarten



Passengers trying to enter St Maarten illegally on this leaky vessel in June 2005 are relieved at been rescued.

By Thomson Fontaine

It is a hot summer day late in 2005 and passengers on the boat called “Trik Pony” know that something is wrong. The boat has begun to take on water and their captain has abandoned ship, taking the only safety craft on board, claiming that he was going on shore for help.

More than four hours have passed and the passengers are becoming more desperate. They know that if help does not arrive soon they could all drown. The sails on their leaky craft is torn and the vessel weighed down by the weight of the passengers and now water is drifting aimlessly in the waters of the Caribbean.

A few among the 62 men, women and children on board can swim and begin to prepare themselves for a possible swim to shore. Unfortunately, the shore is no where in sight. They are 40 miles away from the nearest piece of land in St Maarten, panic begins to set in. Suddenly, there is a glimmer of hope. One of the female passengers from Dominica eagerly peers at her mobile phone, the only one on the entire boat. She has some signal. As anxious passengers look on, she dials a number and within moments she is patched through to the ST Maarten police. Within minutes, a coast helicopter and police boat are dispatched to search for the distressed vessel. It is soon found and after about one hour, the relieved passengers are towed to shore. The captain and his rubber dinghy are also located and he is hauled off to jail. Their joy at rescue is however short-lived. Within a day of

being rescued, the 52 Haitians and 10 Dominicans are on a chartered flight to Dominica. The dramatic sea rescue was front page news in St Maarten, where the passengers were being smuggled to. This was nothing new to the St Maarten authorities. They already had confirmation from Dominica that there was an organized human trafficking trade centered in Dominica. What was different this time though was the large number of Haitians involved. The authorities in St Maarten were already making noises about the large number of undocumented immigrants in their country.

This time they were determined to act swiftly to put an end to this new threat. Before the heavy flow of largely Haitian immigrants through Dominica in 2004 and 2005, several thousand Dominicans had already moved to that Island. Many in search of better opportunities in a country famed for its duty-free shopping and hordes of tourists. In the past, the authorities had complained bitterly to Dominica about its inability to stop the flow of migrants pointing to the ease with which visitors could enter Dominica. They wanted action and were determined to fight to prevent the problem from escalating. In April 2005, they had requested and got talks with the Dominica government on the human smuggling issue. Talks followed a case in which the captain and a crew member, both from Dominica, of L’Eternel est Grand had to appear in court on human smuggling charges.

The boat had been packed with more than 40 persons and two persons had drowned. The captain was subsequently found guilty and sentenced. In June of that same year, another boat captain from Dominica Jeremiah Flerin of the Dominica-registered boat Liberty was found guilty of human smuggling and sentenced to an unconditional jail penalty of four years. Four of the boat’s 51 passengers were from the Dominican Republic, 45 came from Haiti, while the captain and his assistant were Dominica nationals. The boat was only registered to hold 5 persons. Their response would now be aimed at both the unwanted immigrants risking their lives to come by sea and those who were coming legally disguised as tourists, and had taken up residence in St Maarten. Up to that point, Dominicans and most other visitors could enter the Dutch side of St Maarten without entry visas. In January of 2006 through the Franco-Dutch Treaty, the authorities sought to control persons entering St. Maarten/St. Martin (St Maarten is Dutch and St Martin French). Visa restrictions were imposed for nationals of Dominica, Jamaica, Guyana and Suriname. By the time the visa restrictions came into effect, there were already approximately 2,568 Dominicans residing in St. Maarten from a population of about 20,000 undocumented immigrants, from over one hundred countries. Haitians led the way with the most undocumented immigrants followed by

the Dominica Republic, Dominica and then Jamaica. The number of undocumented migrants from Dominica living in St Maarten is about twice the number of those legally registered. In the 1998 elections in that country, 577 Dominicans were registered to vote with a further 500 believed to be living there legally. These estimates would put the number of Dominicans residing in St Maarten at about 3,600 or approximately 4 percent of that country’s population. The authorities have also moved more aggressively to return undocumented migrants to their home countries. In 2004, more than 311 were sent back including 47 from Dominica. During 2005–2008, a further 186 were repatriated to Dominica. It is widely believed that a significant number of those sent back reentered the county illegally

using boats from Dominica. In addition to immigration control, the authorities have instituted a more stringent employment permit policy, which the country’s labor commissioner said was geared towards reducing the exploitation of foreign labor and promoting the hiring of locals. While the active trade in human smuggling has been largely curtailed, the daily challenges of Dominicans residing in St Maarten continues. For many who left their country in search of better living conditions, it has been a difficult journey, one made all the more challenging with the onslaught of the global crisis. However, unless the economic situation in Dominica improves, it is likely that many will continue to risk life and limb as they go in search of a better life just across the sun drenched horizon. □

The time has come for an airline passenger Bill of Rights

Two years have come and gone since Senator Barbara Boxer of California (D) and Senator Olympia Snowe of Maine (R) proposed federal legislation that would prevent the type of ugly scenario experienced by the 47 passengers stranded on the tarmac overnight just over a week ago in Rochester, Minnesota. The legislation was introduced to the U.S. Senate after the JetBlue fiasco at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York in February, 2007. During a winter storm more than 1,000 JetBlue passengers were held hostage on several aircraft for hour-after-hour, including a flight bound for Aruba that sat for more than 11 hours before being canceled.

Since that day and the introduction of legislation from one Democratic and one Republican senator the U.S. Senate has done nothing. It is widely believed that lobbyists for the airline industry have been largely responsible for preventing any action to date. Consumer rights organizations are hopeful that the Rochester delay on a cramped ExpressJet 50-seat regional jet with one smelly, overflowing bathroom and no food or drink for six hours will get the legislation moving in earnest when Congress reconvenes next month. ExpressJet is a Continental Airlines regional airline partner.

In an editorial last week the San Jose Mercury News suggested how to get the Senate moving: “How about putting all 100 senators on a jet and leaving them out on the tarmac until they vote. Toss in a few moms with babies and two-year-olds to keep them company,” said the newspaper’s editorial writer. Additionally, the Mercury News said, “If Dick Cheney ordered this, we’d call it torture.”

It is abundantly clear that the U.S. airline industry cannot be expected to legislate itself, and it is long overdue for the U.S. Senate to take action so that passengers no longer have to suffer unnecessarily during flight delays. The expectation is that government action will specify how many hours passengers may be kept on an aircraft as well as lay out specifics about the use of gates and terminals in the event of a diverted flight. □

BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

Lending by bailed-out banks drops again in JuneBy MARTIN CRUTSINGER,
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — The Treasury Department says the value of loans held by the largest banks getting government bailout support fell for a fifth consecutive month in June.

The department says the average value of loan balances at the 22 largest institutions who received government support dropped 1.1 percent following a decline of 0.2 percent in May.

The government survey did find that the amount in new loans originated rose 12.7 percent following a 1.4 percent increase in May.

The monthly survey monitors the impact the bailout program is having on the goal of boosting loans to consumers and businesses. The banks that have received support include Citigroup Inc. and Bank of America Corp. □

Labor Day air travel seen falling: trade group

CHICAGO (Reuters) — The number of passengers on U.S. airlines during the Labor Day holiday will likely decline this year as the recession erodes budgets, but planes will be full and fares are inching higher, experts said on Monday.

The Labor Day travel forecast from the Air Transport Association (ATA), an industry trade group, said about 3.5 percent fewer travelers are expected to fly during the eight-day Labor Day holiday period.

But major capacity cuts in the last year mean planes will be full as fewer seats are being flown.

“Economic uncertainty and persistently high energy prices for consumers and businesses continue to impact demand for air travel,” ATA Chief Executive James May said in a statement.

The airline industry has been battered this year by declining demand amid the economic recession. Carriers, however, have been rapidly downsizing since last year, so planes have remained full even as ridership falls.

The ATA said the projected decline is for a 3.5 percent drop in domestic travel and a 3 percent drop in international travel.

Despite the declining demand, Rick Seaney, chief executive of FareCompare.com, sees some recovery in ticket prices -- still down from a year ago -- as the peak summer travel season ends.

“I think they’re definitely firming,” Seaney said.

Earlier this year, Seaney noted longer and deeper fare sales as airline sought to fill planes during the summer. Sales are less aggressive now, but he said airlines still are taking every stop possible to make sure demand does not slip after summer.

Seaney said an ongoing fare sale by JetBlue Airways Corp that allows unlimited travel for \$599 for one month is a prime example.

“I think you’ll see a lot more of those marketing schemes to try to make sure that September doesn’t end up being a disaster,” he said □

VIX fear gauge jumps 15 percent as stocks tumble

NEW YORK (Reuters) — The CBOE Volatility Index (.VIX) jumped more than 15 percent on Monday as U.S. stocks tumbled on renewed concerns about the potential strength of the economic recovery.

The widely-watched VIX, considered to be Wall Street’s fear gauge, often moves inversely to the broad S&P 500 index (.SPX). Major U.S. stock market indexes were down more than 2 percent shortly after the opening bell. □

Stocks tumble as investors worry about consumersBy TIM PARADIS,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Investors’ rising fears about consumer spending are turning stocks into a risky investment again.

Stocks fell by the sharpest amount in six weeks and Treasury prices soared Monday as investors around the world feared that consumers are too anxious to spend the economy into recovery. The losses on stock exchanges extended the heavy selling that began Friday with a disappointing reading on consumer confidence. And bond investors, once again searching for a safe investment, bought heavily into Treasuries.

The Dow Jones industrials fell 165 points, while overseas, the Shanghai stock market tumbled almost 6 percent and the major indexes in Europe fell more than 1 percent.

Stocks slid across all industries as investors worried that consumers’ reluctance to spend will hurt corporate earnings. Many companies’ second-quarter results were boosted by cost-cutting, not higher sales, and the fear is that without a pickup in sales, earnings will fall.

While other parts of the economy, including housing and manufacturing, are showing signs of progress, the country cannot have a strong recovery unless consumers are spending more freely. Their spending accounts for more than two-thirds of U.S. economic activity.

Traders got more bad news about the consumer Monday when home improvement retailer Lowe’s Cos. said poor weather and cautious spending caused sales to fall 19 percent in the second quarter. The company’s results missed analysts’ forecasts.

The market’s reaction to news of a reluctant consumer had many questioning whether a five-month rally was way too



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Monday, Aug. 17, 2009.

(AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

optimistic. At its recent high the S&P 500 index had climbed almost 50 percent from a 12-year low in early March.

Joe Saluzzi, co-head of equity trading at Themis Trading LLC, said the market had risen too far and that the selling was warranted.

“The economics obviously don’t support where we’ve been,” he said.

Other analysts were more upbeat, saying some retreat was to be expected.

“We have come an awful long way. To not expect a sell-off after the degree of increase — I think you’re dreaming,” said John Merrill, chief investment officer of Tanglewood Wealth Management in Houston.

In midafternoon trading, the Dow fell 164.67, or 1.8 percent, to 9,156.73. The broader Standard & Poor’s 500 index fell 21.82, or 2.2 percent, to 982.27, while Nasdaq composite index fell 49.43, or 2.5 percent, to 1,936.09.

It was the biggest drop for major stock indexes since July 2, when a weak employment report fanned worries about the economy. The indexes fell more than 2.5 percent.

About 2,700 stocks fell while only 315 rose on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 655.1 million shares

compared with 594 million shares traded Friday.

The Chicago Board Options Exchange’s Volatility Index, also known as the market’s fear index, surged 13.2 percent. The VIX rose 3.20 to 27.47. It is down 31 percent in 2009 and its historical average is 18 to 20. It hit a record 89.5 in October at the height of the financial crisis.

Meanwhile, the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite its price, fell to 3.49 percent from 3.57 percent late Friday.

Overseas, China’s main market fell 5.8 percent as investors worried that stocks had risen too quickly and the government would tighten bank lending policies. Japan’s Nikkei stock average fell 3.1 percent as investors weren’t satisfied by news that the country had emerged from recession in the second quarter.

In Europe, Britain’s FTSE 100 fell 1.5 percent, Germany’s DAX index lost 2 percent, and France’s CAC-40 fell 2.2 percent.

Stocks slid Friday following a sharp drop in the Reuters/University of Michigan consumer sentiment index, which followed a surprisingly weak July retail sales report from the Commerce Department. □

Fed survey: bank lending tight through mid-2010

By **MARCY GORDON**,
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON—The Federal Reserve said Monday most banks expect their lending to remain tight through the second half of next year, with the exception of mortgage standards, which already are loosening a bit.

The Fed's latest survey of loan officers found that about 20 percent of U.S. banks tightened their lending standards on prime home mortgages in the April-June quarter, down from around 50 percent in the previous quarter and a peak of about 75 percent a year ago.

Meanwhile, 45 percent of banks say they tightened standards on nontraditional mortgages, such as adjustable-rate loans with multiple payment options, down from 65 percent in the previous survey.

Around 35 percent of U.S. banks reported tightening their lending standards for credit cards, down from nearly 60 percent in the first quarter.

Getting banks hurt by the financial crisis to boost lending is critical to a sustained economic recovery.

Demand for prime mortgages has begun to revive, posting its first increase in the January-March quarter since the Fed began to track those loans separately in April 2007.

The uptick in mortgage demand comes as rates rose last week. Rates on 30-year home loans remained above 5 percent, at 5.29 percent, after reaching a record low earlier this year.

The Fed survey was based on the responses of 55 domestic banks and 23 U.S. offices of foreign banks.

Most of the banks polled expect their standards for all types of loans to remain tighter than average levels over the past decade through at least the second half of 2010. For businesses and families with tarnished credit, that is expected to continue into "the foreseeable future" for many banks, the Fed reported.

In other lending, around 45 percent of banks surveyed said they tightened standards on commercial real estate loans

over the last three months, down from 65 percent in the previous quarter.

While banks' losses on home mortgages appear to be leveling off, delinquencies on commercial real estate loans remain a hot spot of potential trouble, experts say. Many regional banks hold large numbers of them.

A dramatic example was Colonial BancGroup Inc., a big lender in real estate development that failed and

was shut down by regulators on Friday — the biggest U.S. bank to collapse this year with about \$25 billion in assets. Montgomery, Ala.-based Colonial was a major lender to developers in Florida and Nevada and was hit hard by the collapse of the real estate market in those states. Its failure is expected to cost the federal insurance fund around \$2.8 billion.

The Fed on Monday extended through March 31 the duration

of a program intended to spur lending to consumers and small businesses at lower rates, though it said it had no plans to expand the types of loans being made.

The Term Asset-Backed Securities Loan Facility figures prominently in the government's efforts to ease credit, stabilize the financial system and help end the recession. Under the TALF, investors use the funds to buy securities backed by auto and

student loans, credit cards, business equipment and loans guaranteed by the Small Business Administration.

Commercial mortgage-backed securities, which were added to TALF in mid-June, were extended through June 30 because issuing new securities in that area "can take a significant amount of time to arrange," according to a joint news release from the Fed and the Treasury Department. □



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Elsje Podirono	Afl 250,-
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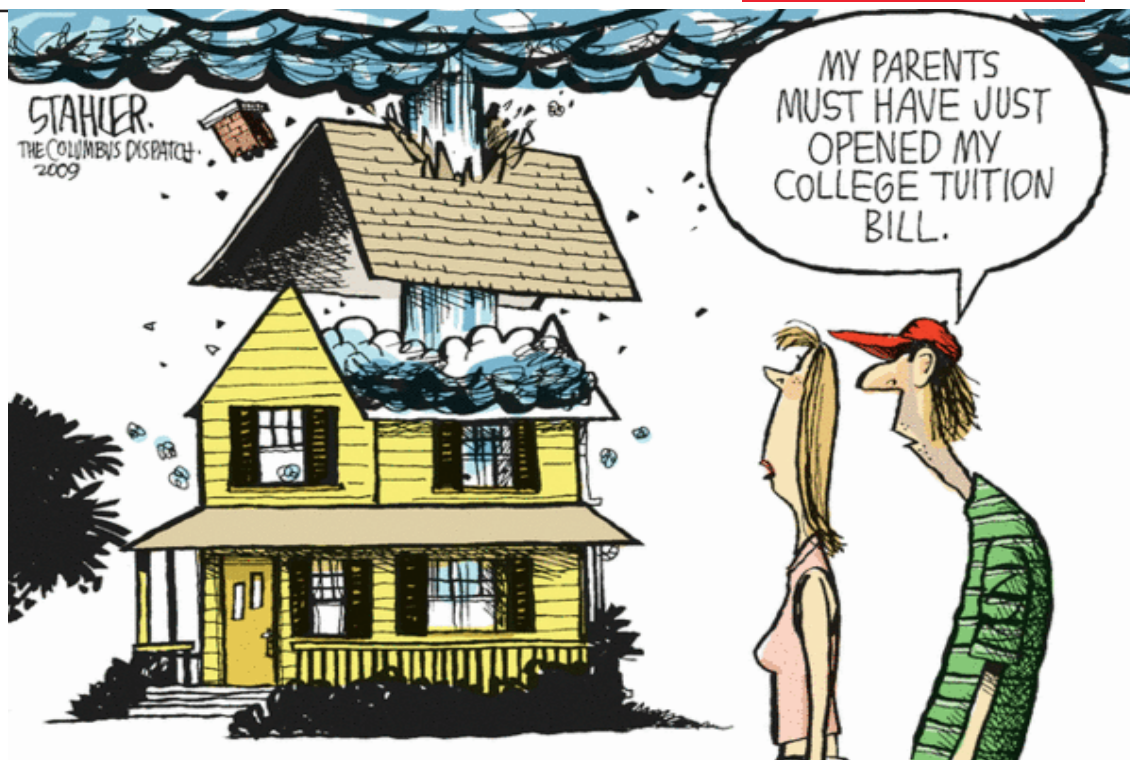
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The Untimely Demise of the F-22

Michael Goldfarb

Washington (The Weekly Standard) Vol. 014, Issue 45 - 8/17/2009 - In his farewell address, President Eisenhower warned "against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex." Last month, John McCain invoked that warning as he fought alongside the Obama administration and Senate Democrats to strip a relatively paltry \$1.75 billion in funding for the Lockheed Martin F-22A Raptor out of the defense authorization bill, delivering the death blow to a program that currently produces the world's only fifth-generation fighter.

Just 183 F-22s have been built, and after another 4 are completed this year, the production line will be shut down for good. A fleet of that size "puts execution of our current national military strategy at high risk in the near to mid-term," General John Corley, commander of Air Combat Command, told Senator Saxby Chambliss in a letter in June. A few weeks before that, Air Force chief of staff General Norton A. Schwartz appeared before the Senate Armed Services Committee and characterized the risk to national security from halting F-22 procurement at 187 as "moderate to high." And in April retired General Richard Hawley, a former commander of Air Combat Command, told a Senate committee that the administration's recommendation to kill the F-22 "rests on an assertion that we cannot afford to equip our airmen, on whom we rely to gain and maintain air superiority, with the best weapons that our defense industrial base has developed." The Air Force had initially planned to purchase some 750 of the super-stealthy jet fighter, but that number steadily dwindled as costs skyrocketed and delays mounted--a "death spiral" that now seems to afflict every Air Force procurement program but is most acutely felt in the development and production of jet fighters. More than \$60 billion has been spent on the research, development, and procurement of the F-22, putting the per unit cost of each aircraft at roughly \$340 million. But the marginal cost of buying one additional aircraft has come down to (just!) \$138 million, and the Center for Strategic and International Studies estimated that a larger order of 70 additional aircraft could have brought that number down to \$70 million a pop.

Yet when Secretary of Defense Robert Gates went to Chicago last month to make the administration's case for killing the program (and several others), he didn't portray the F-22 as unaffordable--just unnecessary. Gates said the administration wanted to end F-22 production in favor of another jet, the F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter, which has yet to enter production. "If properly supported,

the F-35 will be the backbone of America's tactical aviation fleet for decades to come," Gates said in the speech, "if--and it's a big if--money is not drained away to spend on other aircraft."

Opponents of the F-22 were careful to frame the fight against continued procurement as a fight against wasteful spending and the special interests that profit from it. "We do not need these planes," Obama said in a letter to senators from his own party after first the House and then the Senate Armed Services Committees voted to add funding for the aircraft to a Pentagon budget that requested none. Obama threatened to veto his own defense authorization bill if the funding wasn't stripped out. The plane's critics could offer a litany of reasons for why we didn't need the planes, some more compelling than others. The F-22 "has not supported a single mission in Iraq or Afghanistan," Colorado senator Michael Bennet said. Oregon Democrat Ron Wyden said more money for the F-22 would be "the very definition of government waste" and as proof pointed to the fact that the Pentagon, which "hasn't exactly been shy about calling for additional weapons, say[s] this is unnecessary." "It is a cold war relic," declared the military experts who edit the New York Times, noting that it was conceived to counter a Soviet threat that never materialized. And just days before the Senate vote, the administration engineered a Washington Post report that quoted one anonymous Pentagon official blasting the F-22 as incapable of flying more than an average of "1.7 hours before it gets a critical failure."

The F-22 was unnecessary because the Air Force doesn't use it, doesn't want it, and doesn't need it--and the plane doesn't work anyway. It would be madness not to kill the thing and start buying the more affordable, more effective, more relevant F-35. Or so the administration said. "I reject the notion that we have to waste billions of taxpayer dollars on outdated and unnecessary defense products to keep this nation secure," President Obama said in a celebratory address from the Rose Garden after F-22 funding was defeated in the Senate. But just two days later, Congressional Quarterly reported the existence of a Pentagon study showing that the F-35, the plane Gates said would be "the backbone of America's tactical aviation fleet for decades to come," was running some two years behind schedule--it won't move out of development and into production until 2016 at the earliest. In May the Government Accountability Office estimated that U.S. investment in the F-35 would total "more than \$300 billion to develop and procure 2,456 aircraft over the next 25 years." That works out to about \$122 million and change for each aircraft. Allied militaries are expected to

buy at least 700 additional F-35s. The jet will come in at least five variants: a conventional fighter for the Air Force, a short takeoff, vertical-landing variant for the Marines, a carrier version for the Navy, and export versions of the Air Force and Marines variants. Not surprisingly, a program this complicated has already entered its own death spiral--the estimated cost of the program has risen 45 percent since 2001, and Congress has already responded by trimming the total procurement by more than 500 planes. This latest two-year delay could cost an additional \$7.4 billion according to the Pentagon's report--assuming, of course, that there are no further delays or overruns. But even if by some miracle the defense industry is able to deliver the F-35 on budget and on time from here on out, the F-35 will never be able to do what the F-22 does. The F-35 will be a more versatile plane, capable of operating from a wide variety of platforms and performing a more diverse set of missions--including a far more robust close-air support function. But it is not a pure air-to-air fighter like the F-22. After the Senate vote, General Peter Pawling, who moved to the staff of U.S. Pacific Command earlier this year after serving as commander of the Hawaii Air National Guard's 154th Wing, told Aviation Week's David Fulghum that he was "still planning on getting those airplanes." "There is nothing out there that can fly against it," Pawling said. "If we had a major conflict [against someone with advanced air defenses], I can't imagine going in there with anything but an F-22." Indeed, that same day Fulghum quoted another Air Force official, this one identified only as a "senior intelligence officer." "The F-35 is not an F-22 by a long shot," he told Fulghum, "there's no way it's going to penetrate Chinese Air Defenses if there's ever a clash." Concerns about the F-35's ability to penetrate sophisticated air defenses center on doubts about just how stealthy the plane will be. A study published earlier this year by Air Power Australia (Australia is one of the F-35 partner countries) concluded that the Joint Strike Fighter is "demonstrably not a true stealth aircraft in the sense of designs like the F-117A, B-2A, and F-22A." The F-22 can also fly higher, faster, and farther than the F-35 and all while carrying twice as many air-to-air weapons in stealth mode.

Which may explain why some potential customers for the F-35, including Japan, Australia, and Israel, have expressed interest in purchasing the F-22 instead and have lobbied the U.S. government to repeal a statute prohibiting export of the fighter. The Japanese in particular have pushed for access to the F-22--even though the U.S. government put the price for just 40 planes at \$11.6 billion, or \$290 million per aircraft. □

Sunset Grille, a prime Steakhouse offering Spa Cuisine



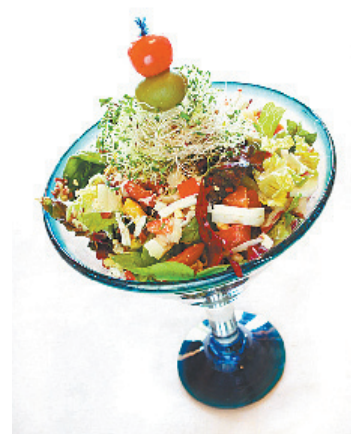
Palm Beach – The Sunset Grille at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa needs no introduction. The award winning American steakhouse with its chic, cosmopolitan atmosphere headlines Prime Beef, the highest grade U.S.D.A -- only 2% of all beef is graded prime, required to age a minimum of 4 weeks. While steaks and chops make up the heart of the menu, the resort's Restaurant Chef Maarten Smeets innovated

unparalleled appetizers and extraordinary desserts, which helped the Sunset Grille achieve the Triple AAA's elite four-diamond status – a rare feat for steakhouses. Sunset Grille well-known as the number one steakhouse in Aruba offers also spa cuisine, for the health conscious visitors, featuring appetizers, salads and a wide array of seafood selections. The spa cuisine dishes are balanced by enhancing

flavors with citrus, spice and herbs and taste is elevated by marinating, smoking and grilling, Smeets explains. "We now use many more herbs, vegetables, grains and fibers," he adds, "all designed to sustain a healthier life style; and we stay away from saturated fats and refined sugars, as well as use salt sparingly," he informs. "The Sunset Grille kitchen," Smeets reveals, "uses no trans fats, and our guests," he banter, "stay healthy, wealthy and wise with our new and exciting spa cuisine." Among the patrons favorite dishes are, the Sunset Grille's famous Chop House Martini Salad, "Shaken not Stirred;" the lobster bisque with a pastry crust, the various cuts of prime beef, the popular Rack of Lamb, Stuffed Quail and the delicious Veal Oscar. The spa cuisine features items such as Tuna Tataki, the Spinach Salad, Chilean Seabass, grilled Swordfish and the Asian style Salmon



and Scallops served with the popular Soba Noodles. The Sunset Grille always endeavors to exceed guests' expectations by purchasing the very best products available and preparing them in accordance with a combination of "tried and true" as well as cutting edge contemporary methods, Smeets explains. Simply put, the Sunset Grille culinary team buys the best products, and cooks them the best way they know, refusing



The Coconut Trading Co., is Stocked with Gorgeous Gifts



Palm Beach -- The Coconut Trading Company displays gifts personally selected by owner Jodi Tobman, a Boston native and longtime Aruba resident, and you are invited to discover extraordinary treasures handcrafted by skilled artisans and colorfully displayed in a beach house

ambiance in the lobby of the Marriott Ocean Club, and at a second just-opened location at the Village on Palm Beach. Every corner of the store attracts the eye with a dazzling assortment of gifts and home accents that command attention; strikingly designed photo frames, candle holders and snuffers, serving pieces to dress every picnic table up and dazzling glass accents: a virtual potpourri of tropical and distinctive gifts to grace any home. The stores also stock a fine selection of creative sterling jewelry, handcrafted with precious gems, sea glass, turquoise and fresh water pearls, which can be found artfully arranged, beckoning to be worn. Find extraordinary gifts for all of your family members and friends, there's something for everyone on your list, not to forget yourself! Popular with repeat visitors and locals, The Coconut Trading Co. has become the premier stop for the perfect gift, with great prices



and convenient nighttime shopping hours. Shipping is available, for larger pieces, offered with a drop ship program at a nominal fee. The Coconut Trading Co., located in the Marriott Ocean Club lobby. Open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sundays until 7 p.m. The Coconut Trading

Company, located at the Village on Palm Beach. Open daily from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week. Email: orders@salamanderholdings.com



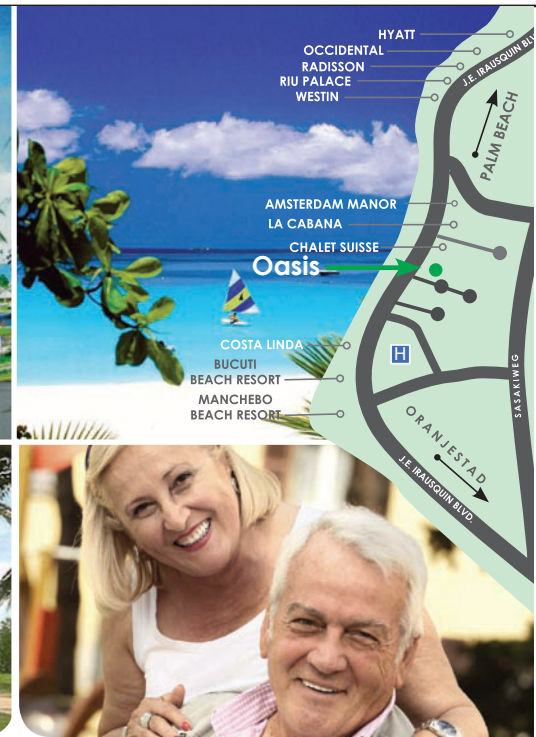
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EAGLE BEACH - Oasis Luxury Condominiums is a Mediterranean-style designed complex located on the prestigious Eagle Beach right next to Chalet Suisse consisting of a total of 35 units distributed on five (5) floors. The one, two and three bedroom suites have a perfect view of the ocean and beach. The units include, among other amenities, floor to ceiling glass doors and panoramic windows, spacious terraces, marble bathrooms, European kitchens

35 EXCLUSIVE OCEAN VIEW UNITS
STARTING IN THE LOW 400'S

tributed on five (5) floors. The one, two and three bedroom suites have a perfect view of the ocean and beach. The units include, among other amenities, floor to ceiling glass doors and panoramic windows, spacious terraces, marble bathrooms, European kitchens

with granite counter tops and a full stainless steel appliance package including washer and dryer. This 35-condominium complex will feature a beautiful swimming pool with a beach style entry with waterfalls and fountain and state of the art fiber optic lighting. The entrance of the building has a drive-up covered entrance and an elegant two-story lobby leading to the sun-filled hallways and corridors. The common area will facilitate the owners with a well-equipped gym overlooking the gardens and the pool.

The garden will feel like an oasis true to the projects name. There will also be a recreation room and sofas throughout the common area to lounge and relax. Further amenities include a 24/7 security, a full concierge and a rental program for the owners who want to earn a return on their investment. The concierge service will be helpful to assist the owners in making their 'homecoming' a very pleasant return. Each condo will have one designated parking space exclusive to the owners.

Construction on Oasis at Eagle

Beach is moving fast. Fifteen of the thirty five units have already been sold. The condominiums will be ready for occupancy by March 2010. Oasis is located on Eagle Beach which allows for an easy access, even on foot, to the best casinos, restaurants, golf courses, shopping areas and night life the Aruba has to offer. The experienced sales team of Oasis invites you for a visit to learn about this new gem on the beach.

The site tour will take you up in the complex where you will enjoy spectacular views of the ocean and beach as well as a wonderful view of Oranjestad where the cruise ships are docked. The views from the rooftop terrace are stunning to say the least. The Oasis sales team is ready to assist you.

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In this Aug. 15, 2009, President Barack Obama talks about health care during a town hall meeting in Grand Junction, Colo. Obama's weekend concession on a health care "government option" drew complaints from liberals and scarce interest from Republicans and other critics on Monday, Aug. 17, 2009, a fresh sign of the challenge the administration confronts in finding middle ground in an increasingly partisan political struggle.

Associated Press

U.S. liberals complain over Obama concession

DAVID ESPO

AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's weekend concession on a health care "government option" drew complaints from liberals and scarce interest from Republicans and other critics on Monday, a fresh sign of

the challenge in finding middle ground in an increasingly partisan U.S. political struggle. "You really can't do health reform" without allowing the government to compete with private insurers, said Howard Dean, a former Democratic Party chairman.

Continued on Next Page

NFLPA advises players about potential 2011 lockout

MICHAEL MAROT

AP Sports Writer

TERRE HAUTE, Indiana (AP) — NFL officials insist they want a new labor deal. The players association is convinced league owners are after something else: A lockout in 2011. NFLPA executive director DeMaurice Smith told reporters at the Colts' training camp Monday morning that

he expects owners to impose a lockout in two years and has begun advising players on how to prepare for it. "They want to lock us out in 2011, so our drop dead date is when our players say 'What do I do when my family needs health care?'" Smith said while making the latest stop on his league-wide tour.

Continued on Page B12



AP source: More workers to handle car rebates



A handwritten sign is shown on the driver's window of a 1997 Ford Windstar minivan traded in as part of the government rebate program at a Ford dealership on Sunday, Aug. 16, 2009, in Centennial, Colo. The Obama administration is tripling the number of workers processing Cash for Clunkers transactions as some dealers complain the government has been slow to reimburse them for the car incentives of up to \$4,500 per vehicle.

Associated Press

By KEN THOMAS and STEPHEN MANNING

Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is tripling the number of workers processing Cash for Clunkers transactions as some dealers complain the government has been slow to reimburse them for the car incentives of up to \$4,500 per vehicle.

Continued on Page B4



Destroyed cars are seen at a police station in Nazran, Ingushetia, Russia, Monday, Aug. 17, 2009. A suicide bomber exploded a truck at a police station in Russia's restive North Caucasus Monday, killing at least 20 people and wounding 60 others, officials said.

Associated Press

Suicide bomb kills 20, injures over 130 in Russia

MIKE ECKEL

SHAMSUDIN BOKOV

Associated Press Writers

NAZRAN, Russia (AP) — A suicide bomber rammed a truck into a police station in the Russian region of Ingushetia on Monday, killing at least 20 police in the worst attack to ravage the poor North Caucasus republic in years.

Continued on Page B6

LIBERAL COMPLAIN

Continued from Page B1

“Let’s not say we’re doing health reform without a public option,” he added in a slap at the administration’s latest move.

Obama and his top aides signaled retreat over the weekend on proposals for a provision under which consumers could choose from health insurance policies sold by the federal government as well as those marketed by private companies.

“All I’m saying is, though, that the public option, whether we have it or we don’t have it, is not the entirety of health care reform,” the president told a town hall-style audience in Colorado on Saturday. “This is just one sliver of it, one aspect of it.”

The government option has emerged as one of the most contentious elements of legislation taking shape in Congress, with critics saying it is a step toward a federal takeover of health care and supporters arguing it is essential to create competition with private firms that provide health insurance.

Proposals for creation of nonprofit cooperative ventures have emerged as an alternative, but so far, neither liberals nor conservatives



Howard Dean, left, shakes hands with visitors as he signs books at Netroots Nation, a gathering of self described progressive bloggers and online activists in Pittsburgh, Friday, Aug. 14, 2009.

Associated Press

have shown great interest.

The United States is the only developed nation that does not have a comprehensive national health care plan for all its citizens. About 47 million of America’s 300 million population are without health insurance.

Obama made his remarks as he struggled to regain momentum for a health care overhaul that has generated controversy among Democrats and near unanimous opposition among Republicans. Recent polls

show a lessening of support, and the administration and its allies were thrown on the defensive earlier this month when angry protesters turned up at widely publicized town hall events held by Democratic lawmakers.

The bill faces numerous obstacles when lawmakers return to the capital in early September.

In the House, where Democrats hold a 256-178 majority, passage of legislation will hinge on the ability of the

administration and Democratic leaders to satisfy liberals who favor a robust government option and centrists who prefer the co-op approach.

Because they cannot realistically count on any Republican votes, the margin for error is reduced.

At the same time, House leaders want to protect their rank-and-file centrists, who tend to come from districts that swing between Democrats and Republicans in elections. The centrists’ victories in 2006 and

2008 helped give the party its large majority.

There are similar Democratic divisions in the Senate, where the party controls 60 seats to 40 for the Republicans. A bipartisan group of six senators has been meeting for weeks on a possible compromise that would not include a government option. It is not clear whether they will be successful in reaching a final agreement.

While the president says he favors a bipartisan approach, he has also said it may ultimately be necessary for Democrats to produce a bill more to their own liking.

Jim Manley, spokesman for Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, said the lawmaker “supports a public option” because it could keep insurance companies in check.

“But he also knows that 60 votes will be needed to get anything done. Senator Reid recognizes there are different proposals on the table that could accomplish this goal,” the spokesman said, a clear reference to the co-op alternative.

Liberals in and out of Congress were careful not to criticize Obama directly, but they made clear their unhappiness with his latest move. □

White House to host immigration meeting Thursday



In this July 23, 2009 picture, Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio gives a news conference in Mesa, Ariz. after a day of crime suppression sweeps through the East Valley. The self-proclaimed “toughest sheriff in America” has never gotten so much resistance from the federal government. The Homeland Security Department wants Sheriff Arpaio to stop arresting illegal immigrants who haven’t committed crimes besides crossing the U.S.-Mexico border without documents. The thing is, Arpaio doesn’t much care. He says he’s not going to bend to the federal government.

Associated Press

EILEEN SULLIVAN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House is hosting an immigration discussion Thursday with advocates, religious groups, businesses and law enforcers as part of an effort to bring all parties to the heated debate into one room.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano will lead the discussion, said an official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the meeting is not public.

Homeland Security spokesman Matt Chandler said Napolitano has been holding similar meetings across the country during the past few weeks. He said Napolitano thinks it is important to speak directly to the people who are affected by the department’s policies.

Last week President Barack Obama said immigration reform is important, but other priorities such as his health care overhaul

and financial regulation must come first.

Obama said he expects to see draft legislation for an overhaul in the immigration rules by the end of the year, but changing the system will have to wait until next year. The immigration system is undeniably broken, he said, and he expects there will be a fight over how to change it.

It has been a roller coaster ride for immigrant rights advocates pushing for change during the past few years. When a call to action came in 2006, more than a million people nationwide marched in solidarity to fight a bill considered anti-immigrant. Since then, two legislative attempts failed.

Napolitano said last week that her department’s job is to enforce the immigration laws currently on the books. She said, “When the law changes, we will be prepared to enforce that law as well.” □

Official says he suspended use of arrest quotas

AMY TAXIN

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The head of Immigration and Customs Enforcement said Monday the agency is no longer using arrest quotas in a program aimed at tracking down immigrants who have ignored court orders to leave the country.

John Morton, assistant secretary of homeland security for ICE, told reporters that eliminating the quotas in the program was one of the changes he has made since taking office this year.

Morton declined to state how widespread the use of quotas was previously or which quotas he suspended. He said the change would not affect the agency's work to find and arrest immigrants who do not heed their deportation orders. "I just don't think that a law enforcement program should

be based on a hard number that must be met at the end of the day," Morton said. "I just don't think that's a good way to go about it and so we don't have quotas anymore."

Agency records from ICE's fugitive operations program show that beginning in 2004, teams were assigned to arrest at least 125 so-called fugitive immigrants. In 2006, each team's quota was increased to 1,000 fugitive arrests.

An internal ICE report released earlier this year showed that agents arrested two dozen Latinos at a Maryland convenience store in 2007 after their supervisor told them to boost arrests because they were behind reaching their goal.

ICE's fugitive operations teams made more than 34,000 arrests during the 2008 fiscal year, more than double the number of arrests made two

years earlier.

Morton, who spoke with reporters on a two-day visit to Southern California, said the teams would increasingly focus on finding immigrants with criminal backgrounds.

Karen Tumlin, a staff attorney with the National Immigration Law Center, said a key concern has been agents' practice of arresting undocumented immigrants with no prior contact with law enforcement while out trying to track down criminals.

"Having a quota system really drove a lot of that profiling and inappropriate enforcement," Tumlin said. "It could be a positive sign. It is one of those only time will tell."

Morton also said he expects a relatively new program that lets local law enforcement check arrestees' immigration status eventually could reduce the need to train local officers



Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, John Morton, right, and Assistant U.S. District Attorney Jim McAlister during a news conference where they presented a repatriation check of \$2.4 million from a joint investigation between U.S. and Mexico to Mexico's Director of Tax Administration Service, in San Antonio, Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2009.

Associated Press

Feds: US company hired undocumented workers

MANUEL VALDES

Associated Press Writer

SEATTLE (AP) — Federal prosecutors filed criminal charges Monday against a Washington state manufacturing company where 28 people were arrested during a February immigration raid.

Bellingham-based Yamato Engines Specialists was charged with conspiring to encourage undocumented immigrants to remain in the United States between 2006 and 2009. Prosecutors also charged two employees with allowing undocumented workers to file false employment forms with the government.

The raid at Yamato was the first since President Barack Obama took office and attracted national attention. Obama had signaled a desire to stop arresting workers in mass immigration raids and instead focus on prosecuting the companies that hired them. Calls to Yamato Engine and to lawyers for employees Shafique Dhanani and Shirin Dhanani Makalai were not immediately returned Monday. The employees were expected to plead guilty on Tuesday.

Of the 28 people arrested, 24 were given temporary permission to work in the United States while they help with the investigation. Three were released for humanitarian purposes, and a fourth agreed to leave the country. The majority of the men and women arrested were from Mexico, while others were from El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala.

At the time of the raid, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials said the workers obtained the jobs using fake Social Security numbers and other counterfeit documents.

Makalai and Dhanani are members of the family who owns the company.

In February, Makalai said she did not knowingly hire illegal immigrants. She said the raid came after months of cooperating with ICE on an audit, which included providing employee rosters to federal authorities.

In July, the agency began notifying hundreds of businesses around the country of plans to audit employment eligibility verification forms. Makalai has said that her company had cooperated through all audits. □

to run immigration checks in jails.

The program, dubbed "Secure Communities", gives local law enforcement access to an immigration database. That way, when an arrestee's fingerprints are taken, their immigration history is checked along with their criminal background. ICE aims to finish rolling out the program nationwide in 2013.

Immigrant advocates said they worry that both Secure Communities and the jail check program can lead local police to carry out minor arrests with the intent of checking a person's immigration status. On Monday, ICE reported that 10 people died in the agency's custody whose names were not

included on its list of detainee deaths. The omission was discovered after a freedom of information request, the agency reported.

David Shapiro, an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union's National Prison Project, said the failure to report detainee deaths shows a lack of accountability. The update pushes the total number of detainee deaths to 104.

"This forces us to question even further whether there are still more deaths that somehow have gone unaccounted for," Shapiro said in a statement.

In response to the omission, Morton called for a review of the agency's documents and databases. □

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"FAVI FUNDACION CU VISION"



Rep. Joseph Sestak, D-Pa., answers questions at Netroots Nation, a gathering of self described progressive bloggers and online activists in Pittsburgh, Friday, Aug. 14, 2009. Sestak spoke to the convention after Sen. Arlen Specter, D-Pa., his opponent in the upcoming primary election for Specter's U.S. Senate seat.

Associated Press

CAR REBATES

Continued from Page B1

An administration official said Monday the Transportation

Department hoped to have 1,100 public and private sector workers processing the vouchers by the end of the

week, up from a work force of about 350 through the end of last week.

Employees at a department service center in Oklahoma City have taken the lead in processing the vouchers, the official said, and workers have responded to calls for voluntary overtime to process the forms. The official was not authorized to discuss the work force issues publicly and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

Dealers have reported submitting tens of thousands of dollars — in some cases more — worth of rebates to the federal government for repayment that are still outstanding. Many report they have been repaid for only a small fraction of the deals they made under the program, creating strain on cash flows at dealers nationwide.

Rick DeSilva, who owns

Hyundai and Subaru dealerships in northern New Jersey, said an inspector from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which is overseeing the program, visited his offices Monday to review his dealerships' paperwork. Until now, none of the 70 Cash for Clunkers deals DeSilva made have been reimbursed.

"Every car that goes out, you are \$4,000 behind the 8-ball," said DeSilva, who is still owed about \$280,000.

The National Automobile Dealers Association applauded the boost in staff reviewing the dealer claims. "Anything that will speed up the dealer reimbursement process is welcome news," NADA spokesman Charles Cyrill said.

The government said Monday that dealers have submitted requests for rebates that total \$1.6 billion — more than half of the money provided to the program — through the online system set up to process and pay the claims. The program has led to more than 390,000 vehicle sales.

Rep. Joe Sestak, D-Pa., who is challenging Pennsylvania Sen. Arlen Specter in the state's Democratic primary, urged President Barack Obama to increase staffing levels in a letter Sunday. Sestak wrote that many dealers face a loss on each transaction until the government reimburses them.

"Carrying a loss for an extended period will put them out of business — meaning more lost jobs," Sestak wrote. With the increased staffing,

the government's work force is much larger than originally anticipated. A week before Cash for Clunkers formally began July 27, NHTSA estimated it would need just 30 new hires and 200 contractor workers to handle the program over a six month period, according to the guidelines drafted by the agency.

But dealers flooded the online reimbursement system shortly after the program began, overwhelming the computer system and staff set up to process the deals. That led to big delays for dealers trying to file the paperwork they needed to get paid back for the rebates.

Under the program, car buyers are eligible for vouchers of \$3,500 or \$4,500 depending on the fuel efficiency of the vehicles they traded in and buy. Dealers subtract the rebate from the sales price, and then submit paperwork to the government certifying the sale with the assurance that the trade-in will be scrapped.

NHTSA has told dealers they can expect to wait 10 days to be repaid if their paperwork is in order and the deal is approved. But if there is a problem, dealers must resubmit their claim, leading to another potential waiting period. Dealers typically borrow money to put new cars on their lots and must repay lenders within a few days of a sale.

Government officials have said some of the submitted paperwork has been incomplete or inaccurate, leading to delays. □

The Two Hundred



It is truly an honor and a privilege for me to address you in this prestigious paper.

Today is undoubtedly a most beautiful day for the "Police Force Aruba;" celebrating the date of its birth.

The day August 17th was chosen after we got our "Status Aparte".

In the first months of the year 1986, we were so busy; we hardly had time to think on ourselves.

Then one day I sat down with the Minister of Justice and knowing that his birthday was coming up, we decided to have a double celebration on August 17th.

My remarks are designed for members of the Aruban Police Force and their families, friends and the loved ones of the courageous Police Officers.

I will start with taking you back in time.

"There is a feeling of uncertainty in the air.

Many colleagues are tense and uneasy.

The Big Chief is in Aruba.

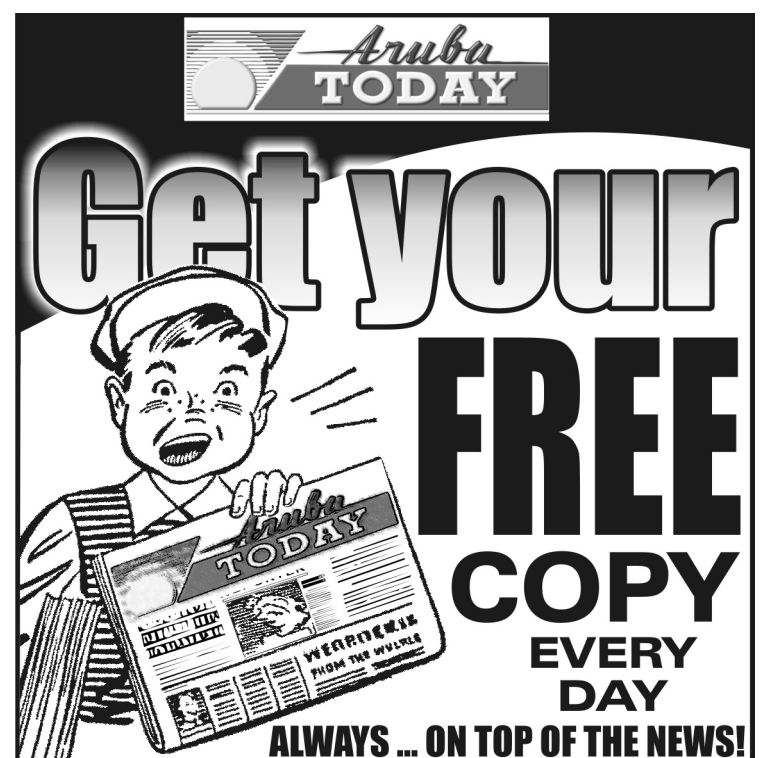
He tells some police officers: "When later on in the meeting, I ask who is leaving, you, you, you and you all, should stand up, beat your chest with your hands and Say: "I am leaving. I am going with the Antillian Police Force". The rest will follow.

That's the atmosphere amongst the police officers in Aruba.

The year is 1985, just months before our "Status Aparte".

The Police Force is 40% understaffed.

In addition 42 more Police Officers decide to leave Aruba.



Firefighting costs grow but funding OK so far

BROOKE DONALD

Associated Press Writer

SAN JOSE, California (AP) — The price tag for fighting California wildfires during just the past few weeks has climbed to more than \$60 million, with the fire season's peak months still looming ahead.

But in a state recently forced to make deep budget cuts, pay bills with promissory notes and order workers to take furloughs to close a \$24.5 billion shortfall, funding to fight wildfires survived, and an emergency reserve even went up. Firefighting officials also have a multimillion rainy day fund to tap into.

"There is a very serious budget problem in California," Lt. Gov. John Garamendi said last week as he signed an order declaring a state of emergency connected to a blaze in the Santa Cruz mountains. "However, we start with a very solid foundation of resources" for fighting fires.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection has a budget of \$519 million for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, about the same as the previous year, said Department of Finance Deputy Director H.D. Palmer. A fund for emergencies increased to \$182 million from

\$69 million last year.

During a visit Saturday to the Santa Cruz County fire command center, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said the "drama every single year" of fighting fires is inevitable, and money must be put aside for it.

"Every year we see it coming; the question is to what extent," Schwarzenegger said.

In June, the governor signed an executive order exempting CalFire employees from the statewide furlough program for the 2009 and 2010 fire seasons. A month earlier, he mobilized CalFire to deploy additional resources and personnel for the department.

"While we need to find savings in virtually all areas of state government," he said in June, "it is absolutely critical that we operate our firefighting operations at full capacity to protect lives and property from potentially devastating wildfires."

Last year was one of the busiest firefighting seasons on record. By mid-August, the state had burned through \$300 million in just six weeks of fighting thousands of fires around the state. CalFire also was borrowing money to fight the blazes as the state didn't yet have a budget.

Sheriff: US couple likely killed in dog attack

KATE BRUMBACK

Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — A former college professor and his wife were apparently attacked and killed by nearly a dozen dogs along a rural northeast Georgia road where their bodies were found mutilated, authorities said Monday.

Preliminary autopsy results from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation showed Sherry Schweder, 65, likely died of injuries suffered in a dog attack, Oglethorpe County Sheriff Mike Smith said. Autopsy results for her husband, Lothar Karl Schweder, 77, were not yet available, but Smith said it's likely he was also attacked by dogs because the scene was so grisly.

Smith said officials were going to round up at least 11 dogs seen in the area where the couple's mutilated bodies were found Saturday morning by five passers-by.

It wasn't immediately clear whether the mixed-breed dogs, which are to be captured by animal control officers from neighboring Madison County, were feral or someone's pets. There had been no recent complaints about vicious dogs in the area, Smith said.

Stephanie Shain, a spokeswoman for the Humane Society of the United States, said it was "uncommon" for people to be bitten to death by dogs, citing federal figures that the average number of fatal dog bites each year is 16.

The bodies were found along a dirt road near the couple's home in Lexington and had been there for at least 24 hours before they were found, said county coroner James Mathews.

A family friend told the Athens Banner-Herald that Lothar Karl Schweder was a retired professor who had taught German at the University of Georgia, which is about 20 miles (32 kilometers) away in Athens.

UGA German Department head Martin Kagel said he didn't know Lothar Karl Schweder and that no one currently with the department knew him. However, he said it might be possible Schweder worked there part time or worked there more than 20 years ago.

Sherry Schweder was a bibliographer at the university's library, where she had worked since 1974, selecting books and journals for the school's humanities collection, said university librarian William Potter.



Fire trucks sit lined up at Cal Fire's fire camp at the Santa Cruz County fairgrounds in Watsonville, Calif., on Monday, Aug. 17, 2009. The price tag for fighting California wildfires during just the past few weeks has climbed to more than \$60 million, with the fire season's peak months still looming ahead. The blaze in Yuba County, which was ignited by burning feathers from a red tailed hawk that flew into a power line, is at \$3 million.

Associated Press

This year is pretty mild in comparison, with fewer fires and in more remote areas. Historically, however, September and October are the most critical times of the year, when hot off-shore winds begin to blow. So there still may be trouble ahead. On Monday, nearly a dozen fires were burning in California. Drought, wind,

lightning, a camp fire and the flaming feathers of a hawk flying in the wrong place at the wrong time are to blame for some of them, with the causes of others still being investigated. Many of the blazes are nearly contained, and widespread evacuation orders have been lifted in most spots allowing hundreds of the thousands of people who had to flee their homes to return. □



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A view from a neighbouring building to a destroyed police station in Nazran, Ingushetia, Russia, Monday, Aug. 17, 2009. A suicide bomber exploded a truck at a police station in Russia's restive North Caucasus Monday, killing at least 14 people and wounding 60 others, officials said.

Associated Press

an emergency meeting early Tuesday of Ingushetia's anti-terrorist committee, the Itar-Tass news agency reported. He said authorities would "take additional measures to ensure stability and security in the republic" and "deliver a blow" to those responsible for the attack.

Ingushetia — more than any other North Caucasus region — has been reeling from militant violence in recent months, including a suicide bombing that badly wounded the Kremlin-appointed leader, Yunus-Bek Yevkurov.

Yevkurov blamed militants who have battled security forces in the forests along the mountainous border with Chechnya.

"It was an attempt to destabilize the situation and sow panic," he said in a statement issued by his spokesman.

Investigators said the attacker crashed his truck through the gates of city police headquarters in Nazran as officers were lining up for their morning inspection. Police fired shots at the truck, but failed to stop it.

Nurgaliyev said experts estimated that the explosive device in the suicide bomber's vehicle was equivalent to about 882 pounds of TNT, Itar-Tass reported.

The blast then triggered a fire that raged for hours, destroying a weapons room where ammunition detonated.

Hours later, rescue teams searched for more victims in the gutted ruins and wrecked vehicles. A nearby apartment building and several offices were also badly damaged, and burned-out cars littered the street.

Emergency officials said 20 officers were killed and up to 138 people were wounded and the death toll was likely to rise as rescuers find more victims.

At least 62 of those injured were hospitalized, including 24 people who were airlifted for treatment in Rostov, Vladikavkaz and Moscow, Nurgaliyev said.

Monday's bombing was the deadliest to hit Ingushetia

since June 21-22, 2004, militant attacks that killed nearly 90 people, mainly police officers.

The attack poses a serious challenge to the Kremlin and its policies in the largely Muslim North Caucasus, which is home to scores of different ethnic groups that have at various times battled Russian forces or fought among themselves.

Under Medvedev's predecessor Vladimir Putin, a relative calm had returned to Chechnya after two separatist wars since 1994. Now that large-scale fighting has ended, the Kremlin has focused on pouring money into rebuilding efforts as well as bolstering local leaders' authority.


But many of the leaders' strong-arm tactics in controlling their regions have prompted a backlash. Chechnya's president, Ramzan Kadyrov, has been blamed for widespread human rights abuses. In Ingushetia, Yevkurov's predecessor, Murat Zyazikov, was loathed by much of the population for heavy-handed police abuses and he was forced out last year.

Rights groups and Caucasus experts have warned that arbitrary arrests, torture and killings by security forces are fueling resentment and turning the sympathies of some of the civilian population to rebel fighters.


In Ingushetia, one of Russia's poorest regions, the situation has been worsened by an influx of refugees who fled the fighting in Chechnya. A lingering territorial dispute with neighboring North Ossetia that sparked a brief war in the early 1990s has stoked unrest.

Speaking in an interview with Russian News Service radio, Yevkurov repeated accusations voiced often by the Kremlin and other Caucasus leaders that instability in the region had been fomented by the U.S., Britain and Israel.

"The West will try to prevent Russia from restoring its Soviet-era might," he said



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	matinee: 12:15	2:15	late show: 12:30		
PG-13 G.I. JOE THE RISE OF THE COBRA	daily: 5:45	8:30			
	matinee: 12:30	3:15	late show: 11:15		
PG-13 TRANSFORMER 2	daily: 8:00				
	matinee:		late show: 11:00		
R THE HANGOVER	daily: 7:30	10:00			
	matinee:		late show: 12:15		
R THE ORPHAN	daily: 6:15	8:45			
	matinee: 12:45	3:30	late show: 11:30		
PG HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE	daily: 4:15				
	matinee: 1:00		late show:		
PG ICE AGE 3 DAWN OF THE DINOSAURS	daily: 4:00	6:00			
	matinee: 12:00	2:00	late show:		
PG ALIENS IN THE ATTIC	daily: 5:00	7:15	9:30		
	matinee: 12:15	2:45	late show: 12:00		

AT PASEO HERENCIA

PG-13 DISTRICT 9	daily: 5:30	7:45	10:15		NEW
	matinee: 1:00	3:15	late show: 12:30		
R FUNNY PEOPLE	daily: 6:00	9:00			
	matinee: 12:00	3:00	late show: 12:00		
PG-13 THE PROPOSAL	daily: 9:30				
	matinee:		late show: 12:15		
PG HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE	daily: 4:30	8:00			
	matinee: 1:15		late show: 11:15		
R THE HANGOVER	daily: 7:30	10:00			
	matinee:		late show: 12:30		
PG G-FORCE	daily: 5:00	7:15			
	matinee: 12:45	2:45	late show:		
PG-13 JULIE AND JULIA	daily: 4:45				
	matinee: 2:00		late show:		
R THE UGLY TRUTH	daily: 4:45	7:00	9:15		
	matinee: 12:15	2:30	late show: 11:30		

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SUICIDE BOMB

Continued from Page B1

The blast, which wounded more than 130 others, undermined Kremlin claims that its efforts to bring calm and prosperity to the impoverished patchwork of ethnic groups, clans and religions were succeeding. It also stoked fears that Ingushetia has replaced Chechnya as the next battleground in the southern Russian region.

In Dagestan, another Caucasus republic where violence is on the rise, a roadside bomb in the capital Makhachkala killed one policeman and wounded three late Monday, said Col. Shamil Guseinov, a city police commander.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack in Nazran, Ingushetia's main city, which left the two-story building smoldering and a crater in the compound's courtyard, where the attacker detonated the bomb.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev fired Ingushetia's top police official and, in unusually harsh comments, said police forces were as much to blame as the attackers themselves.

"This terrorist attack could have been prevented," he said.

Russian Interior Minister Rashid Nurgaliyev attended

U.S. senator says Suu Kyi may ease sanctions stance

GRANT PECK

Associated Press Writer

BANGKOK (AP) — Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi may agree to Washington easing sanctions against the military government, a U.S. senator said after securing the release of an American who had been jailed for sneaking into the democracy leader's home.

Sen. Jim Webb of Virginia on Sunday ended a short trip to Myanmar, bringing with him to Thailand John Yettaw, whose uninvited stay at Suu Kyi's residence in May caused both him and her to be arrested. Yettaw received a medical checkup Monday in a Bangkok hospital.

During his stay, Webb was allowed to meet with Suu Kyi — who is under house arrest

— and held talks with junta chief Senior Gen. Than Shwe. Webb called Yettaw's release and his permission to see Suu Kyi gestures that could lead to closer engagement with Myanmar's military regime for the benefit of the country's people. His meeting Saturday with Than Shwe was the first time the reclusive general has met with a senior U.S. political figure. Suu Kyi is known to support Western sanctions against her country's government, although her precise position is difficult to discern because she has not been able to speak publicly since she was last taken into detention in May 2003.

The United States and other Western nations shun the military regime, maintaining political and economic

sanctions against it because of its poor human rights record and failure to relinquish power.

Webb, who chairs the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's East Asia and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee, maintains that the sanctions have failed to move Myanmar toward democratic reforms and is seeking to amend U.S. policy, currently under review by the Obama administration. He said he will report to U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton when he returns to Washington.

Webb, at news conference Monday in Bangkok, said he did not want to misrepresent Suu Kyi's views, but it was his "clear impression from her that she is not opposed to lifting some sanctions," and



U.S. Sen. Jim Webb answers questions Sunday, Aug. 16, 2009, at a press conference in Bangkok, Thailand. Webb, a Virginia Democrat, won the release of John Yettaw of Missouri, after asking the military leaders of Myanmar to free him. Yettaw was recently sentenced to seven years hard labor following an incident where he swam across a lake in Yangon and entered the home of detained pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

Associated Press

Australia says China canceled minister's visit

ROD McGUIRK

Associated Press Writer

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — China canceled a senior minister's visit to Australia as part of a diplomatic row over a Uighur activist, the government said Tuesday.

Beijing is angry that Australia defied its wishes by granting a visa to Rebiya Kadeer, an ethnic Uighur Muslim from China's west who lives in exile in the United States, so that she could attend a film festival in the southern city of Melbourne this month.

Relations also have been strained by the arrest in China of Australian citizen Stern Hu among four employees of the mining giant Rio Tinto Ltd. who were charged with infringing trade secrets and bribery in the multibillion-dollar iron ore trade.

Foreign Minister Stephen Smith's office confirmed Tuesday that the Kadeer furor was the reason Chinese Vice Foreign Minister He Yafei did not attend a summit of 16 Pacific nation leaders in the northern city of Cairns in early August.

Chinese officials told Australia of the decision via "diplomatic channels," Smith's office said in a statement. The Chinese delegation was led instead by a more junior envoy.

"We regret that the Chinese government has felt obliged to take these steps," the statement said, adding that Australia supports Chinese sovereignty over its restive Xinjiang region. Beijing accuses Kadeer of inciting riots between Uighurs and members of the dominant Han Chinese group in Xinjiang in July that killed at least 197 people and injured more than 1,700. She denies it.

A Chinese Embassy official in Canberra was not immediately available for comment.

The two governments have longer-running difference over iron ore pricing and Chinese

state-controlled investment in Australia's resource industry.

China has repeatedly complained about steep iron ore price hikes in the past two years by Australian-listed miners Rio Tinto and BHP Billiton. Australia replies that the government cannot interfere with free market forces.

China announced an iron ore supply deal Monday with Australian miner Fortescue Metals Group in an apparent effort to prod global suppliers including Rio Tinto and BHP Billiton to cut prices in deadlocked contract talks. Fortescue, an ambitious newcomer to Australia's iron ore export market, sold a 16 percent stake to Chinese steelmaker Hunan Valin Iron and Steel Group in February to help finance its expansion.

Australia applies strict national interest tests before allowing investment from companies controlled by foreign governments such as China. Rio Tinto in June dropped a \$19.5 billion deal with the state-controlled Aluminum Corp. of China while the Australian government mulled the national interest implications of a larger Chinese stake. Chinalco, as the Chinese company is better known, later subscribed to a \$15.2 billion share issue to maintain a 9 percent stake in Rio Tinto.

Opposition leader Malcolm Turnbull accused Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, a mandarin-speaking former diplomat to Beijing, of bringing bilateral relations to "the lowest ebb they have been for many, many years."

"He obviously has no leverage with China left at all," Turnbull told reporters in Canberra.

Michael McKinley, an Australian National University expert on global relations, said the relationship was under strain but remained stable because of underlying interests: "Australia needs to sell stuff and the Chinese need to buy it from regular suppliers." □

that "there would be some areas she would be willing to look at."

He also said the sanctions issue was not specifically raised in his talk with Than Shwe, "although obviously it's the elephant in the bedroom."

Suu Kyi was circumspect about the issue when four of her lawyers were allowed to

meet her Monday evening.

She told them when Webb asked her about her position on sanctions, she told him that "she had sent the message to the government that she will work with the government to discuss issue of sanctions but there was no response from the government," said Nyan Win, one of the lawyers. □

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Gunmen kill eight at bar in Mexican border city



Forensic workers carry away the body of an unidentified man who was found cut into pieces in a car on the outskirts of Juarez, Mexico, Saturday, Aug. 8, 2009. The victim's head was found lying on the car's hood, and according to police the other part of the victim's body was found in the trunk.

Associated Press




Don't drink & DRIVE

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico – At least eight people were killed early Monday when gunmen opened fire in a bar in drug-plagued Ciudad Juarez on the Mexico-Texas border. Chihuahua state official Arturo Sandoval said three others were hospitalized after the attack that killed seven men and one woman. Ciudad Juarez is one of Mexico's deadliest cities, with more than 1,300 killings so far this year. The federal government has sent thousands of soldiers to crack down on drug cartels, which have responded with unprecedented violence.

Many of the killings are the result of battles between rival drug smugglers for lucrative routes into the United States. In the northern city of Monterrey, four gunmen died in a shootout Monday with soldiers and three other suspects were detained, said Nuevo Leon state Public Safety Director Aldo Fasci. Three soldiers suffered light

injuries in the clash.

Fasci said the confrontation, which included a car chase, led soldiers to a home where an additional five men and a woman apparently connected to the case were detained.

Drug gangs in northern Mexico frequently operate out of "safe houses" in otherwise normal neighborhoods.

In the western city of Guadalajara, the manager of a singer who specialized in drug ballads died Monday of wounds he suffered in a weekend attack that killed the musician. Jorge Altamirano Pelayo served as manager for Carlos Vicente Ocaranza, who was shot to death outside a bar Saturday. Ocaranza was known for singing "narco-corrido" ballads that often glorify the feats of drug traffickers.

Ocaranza was better known as "El Loco Elizalde," or The Crazy Elizalde, a reference to his distant relation by marriage to Valentin Elizalde, a much more famous musician who was also killed by gunshots in

2006. Prosecutors in western Jalisco state, where Guadalajara is located, said the assailants fled on a motorcycle. Local police say Ocaranza received death threats in the past and are investigating possible drug gang links to the crime.

Drug violence has claimed more than 11,000 lives in Mexico since President Felipe Calderon took office in late 2006 and launched a major offensive against cartels.

The U.S. State Department said Monday that the Obama administration last week sent Congress a favorable report on Mexico's human rights record that could allow the release of \$100 million in U.S. aid to help the country fight narcotics traffickers.

In early August, Democratic Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont stopped the release of the report on the Merida Initiative, a \$1.4 billion, three-year aid package, saying it was premature to give Mexico a passing grade on human rights. □




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CA DIVI RESORTS PROPERTY

N. Korea agrees to resume joint projects with S. Korea

HYUNG-JIN KIM

Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea's decision to restart tours run jointly with South Korea and allow reunions of families separated for decades by the peninsula's war is aimed at obtaining much-needed foreign currency and leverage in negotiations with Washington and Seoul, experts said.

Tours to the scenic Diamond Mountain resort located just north of the world's most heavily fortified border, has been a key symbol of reconciliation between the divided Koreas. But when a South Korean was shot near the mountain in July last year — with tensions already high following the inauguration of conservative South Korean President Lee Myung-bak — South Korea pulled the plug.

North Korea ended another tour program to historic sites in the North Korean border city of Kaesong late last year. Dates for resumed tours are to be worked out later in government-to-government talks, South Korean officials said. But North Korea's announcement Monday of their resumption was its latest in a series of goodwill gestures to Seoul and Washington after months of provocations, including pulling out of nuclear talks, test-firing a barrage of missiles and conducting an atomic test.

Earlier this month, the North released two jailed American journalists, Euna Lee and Laura Ling, to former President Bill Clinton. On Thursday, a South Korean worker at a joint industrial complex in the North — who had been detained since March — was freed.

The announcement followed a rare meeting Sunday between North Korean leader Kim Jong Il and Hyun Jung-eun, chairwoman of Hyundai Group, the South Korean operator of the two tour programs. Hyun, upon arrival in South Korea on Monday, said she told Kim of the conglomerate's difficulties in its North Korean business and "he resolved them all."



Hyundai Group Chairwoman Hyun Jung-eun delivers a speech upon her arrival at the customs, immigration and quarantine office in Paju, near the border village of the Panmunjom (DMZ) that separates the two Koreas since the Korean War, north of Seoul, South Korea, Monday, Aug. 17, 2009. She came back from talking with North Korean leader Kim Jong Il Sunday. North Korea announced Monday it would resume reunions of families separated by the border with South Korea and restart stalled tourism ventures in its latest gesture of conciliation after nearly 18 months of rising tensions.

Associated Press

Hyun also told reporters that Kim himself told her that such an incident like the shooting "will never happen again."

Hyundai has poured hundreds of millions of dollars into the projects aimed at promoting ties with the North and their suspension caused serious losses. The conglomerate's North Korea business arm, Hyundai Asan, said losses amounted to more than \$130 million.

Koh Yu-hwan, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Dongguk University, said Pyongyang appeared to want to "ease its economic difficulties at a time

of full-fledged sanctions" by resuming the tour programs — which were an important source of hard currency for the isolated regime.

North Korea's centrally controlled economy has been in shambles over the past two decades. The collapse of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s deprived the country of a key source of trade and aid. Subsequent mismanagement and natural disasters have also hurt the economy. An estimated 2 million people in the North died of hunger in the mid-1990s.

Yoo Ho-yeol, a North Korea

expert at Korea University, said the ailing Kim needs to solve the North's deep economic malaise before handing power to one of his sons. "The issue of feeding people should first be resolved to stabilize the succession." Kim, 67, who has reportedly suffered a stroke, recently indicated his youngest son would succeed him.

Yoo also said Pyongyang wants to promote ties with Washington and Seoul and soften the ground for eventual talks.

"The North knows that a condition for dialogue (with the U.S.) is the dismantling

of its nuclear program," Yoo said. "So the North is taking a conciliatory gesture to soften sanctions imposed on it and establish a favorable position in negotiations while maintaining its nuclear weapons program."

In Washington, State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said Monday the North's announcement is "a welcome step" but urged the regime to abide by a pledge to dismantle its nuclear weapons program under an international disarmament-for-aid deal.

"We want to see them take definitive steps, irreversible steps toward denuclearization," he said.

It was unclear if South Korean President Lee, who angered Pyongyang by taking a tougher line than his liberal predecessors on keeping North Korea accountable to its commitments on nuclear disarmament, would take the bait.

He told a Cabinet meeting Monday that an "unshakable policy" on North Korea will eventually change the regime and draw international support. It was not clear whether he was referring directly to the North's announcement.

Some analysts said the South's rejection of the accords would invite criticism at home for failing to resolve frayed ties with the North and ease tensions on the Korean peninsula.

North Korea's aim is to "put pressure on the South Korean government," said Yang Moo-jin, a professor at Seoul's University of North Korean Studies. "The North has put the ball in South Korea's court."

The North also agreed to resume reunions of families separated since the Korean War ended with a fragile armistice in 1953. They offered to host a meeting at the Diamond Mountain resort on this year's annual "Chuseok" autumn harvest holiday that falls on Oct. 3 and is celebrated in both Koreas.

Family reunions first took place in August 2000 and have reunited about 20,000 separated Koreans. They were last held in October 2007. □

3 Somali gunmen die in attack on UN compound

MOHAMED OLAD HASSAN

Associated Press Writer

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — Gunmen stormed a U.N. aid compound in Somalia overnight, sparking a gunbattle that killed three of the attackers and wounded one, the agency said Monday.

The attack started when up to 10 gunmen opened fire on guards who refused to let the men into the U.N.'s World Food Program compound in Wajid, an aid base in southern Somalia, said Peter Smerdon, a spokesman for WFP. The guards returned fire and the gunbattle lasted about 15 minutes, Smerdon said.

"WFP commends its guards for their actions in defending the compound and the U.N. staff," said Smerdon. "Talks are under way with the local community and the administration to calm down the situation."

He said one of the guards was slightly wounded. WFP relocated the nine international staffers in Wajid to Kenya, but feeding operations were not affected.

An Islamic extremist group, al-Shabab, controls the town and Smerdon said the attackers were "rogue elements of al-Shabab from outside Wajid." That could not be independently confirmed; witnesses said al-Shabab were not involved. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

AL Roundup

Angels use 9-run 13th inning to beat O's 17-8

BALTIMORE (AP) — Torii Hunter celebrated his return from the disabled list by driving in the go-ahead run in a nine-run 13th inning as the Los Angeles Angels outlasted the Baltimore Orioles 17-8 in the American League on Sunday.

Chone Figgins had four hits for the Angels, including the 1,000th of his career, an RBI single in the sixth inning. Los Angeles' leadoff hitter scored three runs and drove in three. After missing 32 games with a groin injury, Hunter had two hits and two RBIs in his first action since July 7. He lined into a double play with the bases loaded in the 11th but redeemed himself with a bases-loaded bouncer up the middle in the 13th off Brian Bass (5-3).

At Arlington, Texas, Ian Kinsler homered and drove in two runs and Dustin Nippert pitched six solid innings as Texas passed Boston in the AL wild-card race.

The Rangers took two of three in the weekend series to move a half-game ahead of Boston.

Kinsler, back in the lineup one day after he was hit by a pitch that ricocheted off his head, went deep for the second straight day and had an RBI single in the third that gave Texas a 3-1 lead.

Taylor Teagarden also connected to help the Rangers win for the seventh time in 10 games. At Detroit, Josh Anderson scored the go-ahead run in the 10th inning on third baseman Ryan Raburn's third error of the game to lift Kansas City to a victory over Detroit. With one out in the 10th, Anderson reached on a dribbler down the third-base line and David DeJesus followed with



New York Yankees' Derek Jeter looks to the third base coach during a seventh-inning at-bat against the Seattle Mariners during a baseball game in Seattle on Sunday, Aug. 16, 2009. Jeter had a double in the game, passing Luis Aparicio for most hits by a shortstop.

a grounder through Raburn's legs. Both runners moved up on Willie Bloomquist's hit to Fernando Rodney (2-3).

Billy Butler then hit a grounder down the line. Raburn fielded it, but made a wild throw to first for his second error of the inning, allowing Anderson to scamper home. Joakim Soria (3-0) threw two scoreless innings to get the win. At St. Petersburg, Florida, Gregg Zaun had a pinch-hit grand slam in the eighth inning to lead Tampa Bay past Toronto. It was Zaun's fifth career grand slam and first since Sept. 6 while with Toronto against the Rays.

Ben Zobrist had a one-out single off Brandon League (1-5) and went to third on Carlos Pena's double. After Willy Aybar was intentionally walked to load the bases and pinch-hitter Gabe Gross struck out during a 10-pitch at-bat, Zaun sent a 3-2 pitch into the right field seats.

In other AL games it was, Kansas City 3, Detroit 2, 10 innings; L.A. Angels 17, Baltimore 8, 13 innings; Tampa Bay 5, Toronto 2; Texas 4, Boston 3; Cleveland 7, Minnesota 4; Oakland 3, Chicago White Sox 2; and Seattle 10, N.Y. Yankees 3. □

Associated Press

NL Roundup

Wolf homers, pitches into eighth for Dodgers

PHOENIX (AP) — Randy Wolf finished a triple short of the cycle and pitched neatly into the eighth innings to lead the Los Angeles Dodgers to a 9-3 victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks on Sunday that snapped a three-game skid in the American League.

Wolf (7-6) retired 20 straight batters after Ryan Roberts singled with one out in the first inning. Arizona rookie second baseman Rusty Ryal broke the streak with his first major league homer leading off the eighth inning.

Los Angeles right fielder Andre Ethier had four hits, finishing a triple short of the cycle, and four RBIs. His three-run homer 10 pitches into game off Yusmeiro Petit (2-7) gave Wolf an early cushion.

Wolf and Orlando Hudson had two-out, two-run homers in the fourth inning for a 7-0 lead. Wolf also hit a single and an RBI double.

Phillies 4, Braves 1

At Atlanta, Ryan Howard homered twice and drove in four runs to back rookie J.A. Happ's strong 7 2-3 strong innings as Philadelphia downed Atlanta.

Struggling closer Brad Lidge earned an easy save, getting the final out.

Philadelphia dropped the Braves six games back in the National League East and kept Atlanta from tying Florida for second place in the division.

Continued on Page B12

APNewsBreak: Anthony sues former business manager

ARNIE STAPLETON

AP Sports Writer

DENVER (AP) — Carmelo Anthony is suing his former business manager, alleging he misappropriated more than \$2 million of the Denver Nuggets star's assets.

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in Sacramento, California on Monday, alleges that Anthony's former business manager, Larry W. Harmon, and employees of Larry Harmon & Associates breached their fiduciary duties by transferring \$1.75 million of Anthony's money without his knowledge or consent to a company formed by Harmon, most of it in 2008.

Another \$265,500 was discovered to have been invested in third parties without Anthony's knowledge or consent between 2005 and 2008, according to the lawsuit, which seeks recovery of the approximately \$2 million, plus punitive damages.

"I intend to aggressively represent Carmelo Anthony," his Beverly Hills-based attorney, Robert W. Hirsh, told The Associated Press. "The evidence which I have reviewed strongly suggests that Carmelo Anthony's former business manager plundered his assets. It is reprehensible that professional athletes are so often victimized."

Reached at his office in Roseville, California, Harmon said he was unaware of the lawsuit.

He declined to comment on the allegations in the lawsuit or on his dealings with Anthony. "I guess I'll just wait and see what he alleges," Harmon said.

Isinbayeva loses pole vault title at world championships

RAF CASERT

AP Sports Writer

BERLIN (AP) — Olympic champion Yelena Isinbayeva lost her five-year stranglehold on the pole vault Monday, failing to clear any height at the world championships.

In stark contrast, Kenenisa Bekele and the Jamaican sprinters were as predictable as ever.

Bekele extended his domination over the 10,000 meters with a fourth straight world title and Shelly-Ann Fraser added one to her Olympic gold in the 100.

Isinbayeva had won all major titles since the 2004 Athens Games and saw a difficult year hit an unexpected low when the bar fell down on her at 4.80 meters. As the Russian held her head in despair, Anna Rogowska of Poland, who beat her at a meet in London last month, celebrated unexpected gold. She had cleared 4.75 meters.

"I have no proper explanation," the Russian said. "Everything was perfect. I was confident. ... I did not expect it."

Unlike Isinbayeva, Bekele didn't use 10 fingers to hide his face. He was holding up just one to show he remains the undisputed No. 1 when entering the final straight, having used his famed final kick to distance Zersenay Tadese of Eritrea by about 20 meters. As if he had been out on a jog, the Ethiopian immediately went on a victory lap with his teammates.

Equaling the four world titles of Haile Gebrselassie, Bekele is challenging him ever more as Africa's greatest ever distance runner. He will decide later whether to go for a long-distance double.

Over the shortest distances, Jamaica emerged ever stronger as the greatest nation.

Fraser blasted out of the blocks and led throughout the race to give Jamaica its second sprint gold in as many days. Usain Bolt won the men's 100 in a world record time of 9.58 seconds on Sunday.

"It is a motivation because Usain Bolt was really magnificent," Fraser said. "We have to ride the occasion."

Fraser finished in 10.73



Russia's Yelena Isinbayeva reacts after failing to clear the bar to be eliminated from the final of the Women's Pole Vault during the World Athletics Championships in Berlin on Monday, Aug. 17, 2009.

seconds, and behind her, fast approaching teammate Kerron Stewart finished in 10.75, also crossing in a blur of Jamaican yellow. United States champion Carmelita Jeter was never in the race and finished third in 10.90, edging defending champion Veronica Campbell-Brown, a third Jamaican in the top four.

Adding another morose touch to the American team, sprinter Tyson Gay said he would not compete in a rematch with 100-meter champion Usain Bolt in the 200 later this week because of a nagging groin injury. "Rather than risk

further injury, I've decided that I will not compete in tomorrow's first round of the 200," Gay said in a statement. "This decision will give me the best chance to be ready for the (4x100) relay. I want to help our relay as best I can." Gay's withdrawal left the United States under more pressure in the battle for sprint domination with the Jamaicans, a race they now trail 2-0. If Isinbayeva's collapse was a surprise when she held her head in her hands on the mat, with the bar alongside her, so was the defeat of another Russian, Gulnara Galkina, in

the steeplechase.

The Olympic champion fell back over the final lap, allowing Marta Dominguez of Spain to win gold.

Dominguez, the silver medalist at the 2001 and 2003 worlds, raced past Yuliya Zarudneva of Russia in the last 100 meters and waved her orange head band in celebration. Milcah Chemos Cheywa of Kenya was third and Galkina finished fourth.

Olympic champion Primož Kozmus of Slovenia won the gold in the hammer throw, beating former Olympic champion Szymon Ziolkowski

of Poland. Aleksey Zagorniy of Russia took bronze.

Kozmus took the lead on his second attempt but put more shine on his victory with a winning throw of 80.84 meters on his last attempt — with gold already assured.

Ziolkowski, showing his best form since taking gold at the 2000 Sydney Games and 2001 worlds in Edmonton, threw 79.30.

Yargelis Savigne of Cuba successfully defended her triple jump title, and compatriot Mabel Gay picked up the silver.

Already leading after three rounds, Savigne took the title with her best jump of 14.95 meters on her fifth attempt. Gay finished second with a jump of 14.61, and Anna Pyatykh of Russia took bronze with a jump of 14.58.

The biggest surprise came in the women's 800 semifinals when Pamela Jelimo stepped off the track after falling behind. The 19-year-old Kenyan stopped running with 250 meters to go.

She had been troubled by injury this season after a perfect 16-for-16 season last year.

The departure of Jelimo left Caster Semenya of South Africa, who won her semifinal heat, as the favorite for Wednesday's final. Defending champion Janeth Jepkosgei finished third in her heat and advanced on time. □



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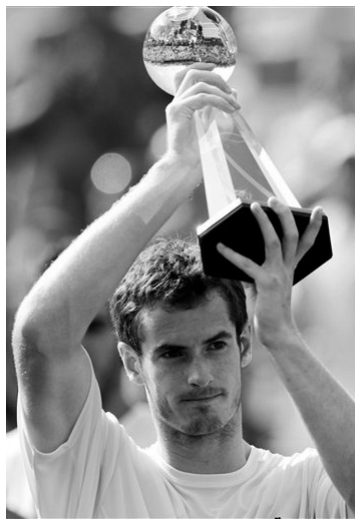
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Murray overtakes Nadal to become No. 2 in rankings



Britain's Andy Murray holds up the tournament trophy after beating Juan Martin Del Potro, of Argentina, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (3), 6-1 in the final at the Rogers Cup tennis tournament Sunday, Aug. 16, 2009, in Montreal.

Associated Press

MONTREAL (AP) — Andy Murray has overtaken Rafael Nadal in the ATP rankings, becoming the first British man to reach No. 2. Roger Federer is still No. 1 in Monday's rankings. Murray's Rogers Cup title in Montreal last week moved him up to No. 2 for the first time, while Nadal is now No. 3 after being ranked No. 1 from August 2008 through June 2009. The only other change in the top 10 this week is Fernando Verdasco's rise from No. 11 to No. 10, supplanting Fernando Gonzalez. Dinara Safina remains at No. 1 in the WTA rankings, followed by No. 2 Serena Williams and No. 3 Venus Williams. □

McCarville scores 19 in Liberty's win over Mystics

WASHINGTON (AP) — Janel McCarville scored 19 points, including the victory-clinching three point play with 9.1 seconds remaining, in the New York Liberty's 60-59 win over the Washington Mystics on Sunday.

Shameka Christon scored 14 points for the Liberty (9-15), who lost their two previous meetings with the Mystics this season.

Alana Beard scored 11 of her 18 points in the fourth quarter, including a layup with 23.3 seconds left to put the Mystics (12-12) ahead 59-57. It was Washington's smallest point total this season.

On the next possession, the Liberty worked the ball around to McCarville, who tossed in a floater from the lane that bounced around before falling in. She was fouled by Crystal Langhorne and then used a shooter's touch on the free throw to give the Liberty a 60-59 lead. □

NL ROUNDUP

Continued from Page B10

After his solo shot made it 1-0 in the second, Howard put the Phillies up 4-1 with his 30th homer in the sixth off Javier Vazquez (10-8).

Happ (9-2) surrendered three hits, including Matt Diaz's seventh homer in the fourth.

Astros 8, Brewers 5

At Milwaukee, Geoff Blum drove in four runs and Hunter Pence hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning as Houston rallied to beat Milwaukee.

Blum hit a three-run homer in the sixth and an RBI single in the ninth for Houston, which managed to get the win despite a shaky start by Roy Oswalt. Lance Berkman walked twice and scored three times.

At Miami, Clint Barmes and Brad Hawpe each hit two-run homers as Colorado beat Florida for a split of a doubleheader.

The Marlins won the opener 10-3 behind homers from Hanley Ramirez and Chris Coghlan and a two-run single by Chris Volstad in a five-run second inning.

Starter Jorge De La Rosa got his ninth win in 10 decisions as the Rockies remained 1 1/2 games ahead of San Francisco in the NL wild-card race. Florida fell two games back.

At Cincinnati, Ryan Zimmerman drove in two runs



Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Randy Wolf throws against the Arizona Diamondbacks in the first inning during a baseball game on Sunday, Aug. 16, 2009, in Phoenix.

Associated Press

with help from a defensive lapse by Cincinnati as Washington rallied for a win. Reliever Arthur Rhodes (0-1) came on to face slugger Adam Dunn with one out and the Reds leading 4-3 in the eighth inning. Rhodes brushed Dunn with a pitch, and Josh Willingham followed with a single to right — his third hit of the day.

One out later, Zimmerman pinch-hit for Alberto Gonzalez and lofted a bloop single to

short right field, just under the glove of a diving Chris Dickerson — in as a defensive replacement — scoring two runs.

In other games it was, N.Y. Mets 3, San Francisco 2; Washington 5, Cincinnati 4; Florida 10, Colorado 1st game; Houston 8, Milwaukee 5; St. Louis 7, San Diego 5; L.A. Dodgers 9, Arizona 3; Colorado 7, Florida 2nd game; and Philadelphia 4, Atlanta 1. □

NFLPA

Continued from Page B1

"All of us are sitting back waiting to hear why they walked away from a deal that generated \$8 billion."

Apparently, players are listening.

Three-time Pro Bowl center Jeff Saturday, the Colts' player representative, acknowledged he has spoken with teammates about the need to save more money now.

Pittsburgh quarterback Charlie Batch said earlier this month that he also has spoken with teammates about the possibility of losing benefits such as health insurance and 401(k) retirement plans if there is a work stoppage.

And Tennessee center Kevin Mawae, NFLPA president, has joined the chorus.

"In the event that there is a lockout, it makes sense. It's the smartest thing to do," he said last week.

"Obviously, we don't want it to get to that point but we want our players to be prepared." But league spokesman Greg Aiello tamped down the prognostications.

"We are preparing to negotiate a new agreement," Aiello said. "We have had two meetings with NFLPA leadership, and we expect to have more. But we have at least two seasons of football left before the contract

expires."

The original collective bargaining agreement was to run through 2013. Owners opted out of the deal in May 2008, citing economic problems that send nearly 60 percent of revenues to the players — a number owners call excessive. Many teams as well as the league office have laid off employees over the past year.

If no agreement is reached by March, the 2010 season will be the first without a salary cap since 1993 and could lead to more uncapped years.

Still, Smith said he's willing to discuss any issues the owners want — as long as he gets answers about why the 32 league owners opted out of the original CBA.

"I'm happy to talk about a change in the disciplinary policy, 18 games or whatever," Smith said.

"But if your employer decides it wants to close the doors in two years, you know, you can talk about a lunch break or anything else. But the first question you'd ask them is why do you want to lock me out?"

Smith balked at the suggestion of a rookie cap, something Colts president Bill Polian and others contend would make pay more equitable between unproven newcomers and proven veterans. □

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Muestran prueba vida de dos colombianos rehenes FARC

CARACAS (Reuters) - La cadena de televisión venezolana Telesur mostró el lunes pruebas de vida de un militar y un policía colombianos secuestrados por el grupo FARC, que forman parte de los más de 20 rehenes que los rebeldes buscan canjear por guerrilleros presos.

La cadena pasó un video del cabo del Ejército Salín Antonio Sanmiguel Valderrama y del mayor de la Policía Nacional Guillermo Solórzano, secuestrados en el 2008 por las Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC).

“Quiero informarles a la comunidad internacional, al pueblo colombiano y en especial a mi familia



Foto de archivo de una protesta callejera pidiendo la liberación del mayor de la Policía Nacional Guillermo Solórzano por las calles de Cali, Colombia, 28 nov 2008. La cadena de televisión venezolana Telesur mostró el lunes pruebas de vida de un militar y un policía colombianos secuestrados por el grupo FARC, que forman parte de los 21 rehenes que los rebeldes buscan canjear por guerrilleros presos. REUTERS/Jaime Saldarriaga (COLOMBIA)

mayo del 2008, dijo que durante el día teje y lee constantemente “la palabra de Dios”. Además se mostró con “muchas ganas de vivir” y esperanzado “en la pronta libertad mía y de todos mis compañeros”.

Por su parte, Solórzano también pidió diálogo para su liberación y envió un mensaje emocionado a su familia y amigos. “Pido a Colombia que no nos olviden, por favor”, dijo el funcionario, que también tenía buen aspecto físico.

Las FARC anunciaron el sábado su disposición a organizar la entrega de dos militares colombianos secuestrados y del cadáver de un oficial que murió en cautiverio, pero insistieron en la necesidad de un acuerdo humanitario para conseguir la libertad de otros 22 rehenes. □

Venezuela:

Detienen a presunto atacante de periodistas

CARACAS (AP) - La organización Reporteros Sin Frontera saludó el lunes la expedita detención de un presunto simpatizante del presidente Hugo Chávez acusado de participar en una agresión contra un grupo de periodistas y que dejó al menos 12 heridos.

El detenido, Gabriel Uzcátegui Beaumont, de 28 años, es un empleado de la Fundación Simón Rodríguez, financiada por el gobierno. La Fiscalía General anunció que Uzcátegui Beaumont en breve comparecerá ante un tribunal y que otras nueve personas están siendo investigadas como presuntos implicados en el ataque el jueves pasado.

Reporteros Sin Frontera, con sede en Francia, afirmó en un comunicado que el gobierno de Chávez “ha dado muestras reales de lucha contra la impunidad en este asunto”. El gobierno condenó la violencia.

Los periodistas fueron agredidos cuando entregaban a los transeúntes un escrito con advertencias contra una nueva ley de Educación, que sus críticos temen podría conducir al adoctrinamiento en las escuelas.

Los periodistas laboran en la Cadena Capriles, empresa editora propietaria del diario Últimas Noticias, uno de los de mayor circulación del país y que tiene una línea editorial favorable al gobierno. □

que me encuentre bien camiseta amarilla, en un física y mentalmente”, breve video cuyo fondo era dijo Sanmiguel, con buen una tela de camuflaje. aspecto y vestido con una El militar, secuestrado en

Un millón de guatemaltecos en riesgo de pasar hambre

GUATEMALA (AP) - Las autoridades estiman que debido a la pérdida de las cosechas de granos básicos provocada por las lluvias irregulares y a un repunte en enfermedades estacionales existe la posibilidad que al menos un millón habitantes pase hambre en lo que resta del año. “Lo que tenemos es un problema de escasez de alimentos, como lo hay todos los años, pero además se han exacerbado las enfermedades como la diarrea y la bronconeumonía que afectan sobre todo a los niños”, dijo a la AP el secretario de Seguridad Alimentaria (Sesan), Juan Aguilar.

De acuerdo con las estimaciones de la Sesan, los habitantes de más de 100 comunidades están en altísimo riesgo de padecer hambre ya que se han perdido las cosechas de maíz y frijol. En algunos departamentos del este del país,

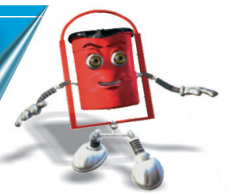
de 13 millones de habitantes, se ha echado a perder hasta el 80% de la cosecha de granos básicos.

“La situación está difícil, está crítica. Estamos preocupados”, dijo Aguilar. El gobierno ya trasladó unos 60 millones de quetzales (unos 7,25 millones de dólares) al viceministerio de Seguridad Alimentaria del Ministerio de Agricultura, que se encargará de repartir bolsas de víveres entre quienes más lo necesitan.

La situación es particularmente difícil en el departamento de Jalapa, ubicado a unos 100 kilómetros al este de la capital, donde la prensa local ha dado cuenta de unos 60 casos de desnutrición severa y al menos 17 fallecidos por esa causa. □



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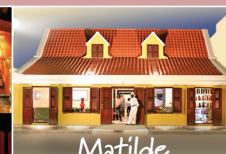
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